

Horticultural.

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Number of Varieties.

In examining the premium lists of numerous fairs to be held in the different western states this fall, it is found that several of them offer premiums for the "greatest variety" of certain fruits, or of fruits in general. The policy of offering this premium is doubtful. In considering its propriety there arises the query, have we not already too many varieties of fruit in cultivation? Then why encourage an increased multiplication of sorts by offering a premium to the person who can exhibit the greatest number of kinds, good, poor, and indifferent? Is it of any benefit to pomology, or the country, to raise varieties of fruit, grain or vegetables that are worthless and cannot be utilized? At the St. Louis fair were exhibited about 200 varieties of potatoes, if we recollect aright, and hundreds of varieties of grain. How many of them are worth cultivating? There are hundreds of varieties of strawberries and thousands of varieties of apples and pears and grapes. Is it worth while to continue their cultivation?

If the list of the different kinds of any grain, or fruit, was cut down to a dozen of the best sorts, it would include all that are profitable or that it is advisable to continue propagating. The paying a premium to the person who can by any manner of means show the largest number of varieties, is a direct encouragement to continue the raising of numerous sorts that are of no earthly value and that have long since been discarded by all progressive horticulturists. Again, this premium is generally the largest one in the list, and instead of falling to the party showing the best fruit, is pretty sure to go to him who has the most elastic conscience. It is well known that just before the time of holding the fair, certain persons will scour the country, by foot, horse and rail, securing or appropriating specimens from far and near, and by fair means or foul they are enabled to display the "greatest number of varieties." Do the societies and associations offering these premiums wish thus to encourage dishonesty, in addition to the propagation of worthless varieties? It is hardly presumable.

We have known a case where two unscrupulous parties combined to enter their specimens together, as one entry, and thus defeated a third and honest party who had an excellent display of only the very best varieties. The best method of offering premiums is that now fast being adopted by the large state and district societies. It allots the premium to the best display or best plate, of some one or more varieties, or to the best collection of a certain number of varieties, the one kind or the exact number of kinds always being mentioned. This is fair for all. Several parties exhibit the required number of varieties, then the awarding committee decide which is the best.—Farmer and Fruit Grower.

Is there Profit in Small Fruits?

"A Subscriber" asks us, says Parker Earle in the Farmer and Fruit Grower, if there is "any money to be made in small fruit growing within the next few years." We think decidedly that there is, within certain strict limitations. And the first condition of success we would name is that any party going into small fruit culture, or any other branch of the fruit business, must make that particular thing his leading business. He must become a specialist. He must become a constant student of all the surroundings and the contingencies of his business. He must understand the conditions of its healthful growth, and be prepared to overcome the many difficulties which will beset him. We do not believe that any man who is doing a half dozen other things of equal or superior importance will be likely to find much money in small fruit growing. His other duties will claim his attention at some critical time, and great losses will occur. It is coming to be better understood among agriculturists, what sagacious business men have always understood, that the greatest achievements are made by the specialists, in whatever line of work. The great stockmen of this country are specialists. They give all their energy to the stock business. They master its intricacies, and then are alert to embrace its opportunities. It is so with the grain growers. It is so with the orchardists who accomplish much good. And we think there is still a chance for the small fruit grower who will take hold of the business with good judgment, and with all his energy.

Another very important condition of success in this culture is that all small fruits must be grown very near the intended market, or very near the shipping station for the intended market. We think sufficient consideration has not been given to this point in our section of country, particularly in the growing of strawberries and raspberries. In our country for instance farmers have been planting these berries who live eight or ten, or even a dozen miles from their shipping station. There can be nothing but loss, on the average, in such an operation. No variety of berry was ever grown that is firm enough, if reasonably well ripened, to bear a jolting rough road of ten miles over our notorious for a long railroad carriage. Even with the easiest spring wagons there would be too much; and with the fruit carried in the common farm wagon, with no springs save a little straw in the bottom, the condition of its arrival would be of necessity bad. We have all seen the dripping and gory looking berries unloaded at our stations, and loaded on top of our own sound fruit, to its certain damage. These distant growers make no money themselves in this way, and hinder growers who take every possible pains with their fruit, from making as much as they deserve. We decidedly advise that no small fruits

be planted more than a half hour's drive from the shipping point. Within such a distance, and with easy wagons and good roads, the fruit can be picked on the day of its shipment, and be put on board the cars in fresh and sound condition. Good berries, well grown, well handled, kept perfectly clean, and marketed in this prompt way, ought to, and generally will, pay a fair price. There is not too much good, high-grade fruit grown, of any kind. There is not enough of such for the constant demand. But there certainly is a surplus of the poor article.

There are several hundred men in the berry business in our country who ought to go out of it; and simply for the reason that they will not do the business from the railroad as to render it practically impossible to do it well. These several hundred men are not making any money in this business; and they are many of them making much less from their legitimate farm crops because of the neglect that comes from their berry culture. We are sustained in this view by the judgment of many well informed men who have given this subject their thought. There are other phases of this topic which may receive attention again. In the meantime, we should be glad to have our readers give their views on this question. It is a matter of great interest to all berry growers, and should have a thorough discussion.

Walnut Lumber.

The Northwestern Lumberman calls attention to the fact that walnut lumber is getting so scarce that it is difficult to obtain it at any price. The best grades have advanced fully twelve dollars in the thousand during the past year, in the leading markets. Furniture men are becoming alarmed and are looking about for something to take its place. Mahogany has been talked about, but the lumberman says the supply of this wood is not half sufficient for the demand upon walnut, and it is becoming more difficult every year to get it, from the fact that it must be brought farther from inland.

One of our readers not long since inquired for some firm that bought walnut lumber, and we have had half a dozen letters in reply, from as many different dealers who were eager to buy. The Lumberman says dealers are thronging through the walnut districts, seizing on every tree that can be obtained, and endeavoring to outbid each other for lumber at the mills. One firm is mentioned that has been buying all it could obtain, at extra prices, before the scarcity was so particularly noticed, and will make a fortune by it, having piles of this lumber in their possession at different points in the walnut lumber districts.

For furniture and for fine work of any kind nothing can take the place of walnut, for no other has the rich color, besides, it works up into finished material almost as easy as pine, and is equal to the best of other lumber in lasting quality. As it grows scarcer and higher priced, it will be replaced by other wood for whole work, and will be largely used as veneer. For some years past it has been so precious that no part of a tree was allowed to be wasted. Even the knots and limbs of any size were all worked up, and mills are located at hundreds of points for working up culls.

The culture of walnut trees will pay. They grow rapidly, quite as much so as the hard maple. A gentleman in Nebraska planted 40 acres of walnut seed, and reports that in six years the trees were on the average 22 inches in circumference and 25 feet high. He states that they make a growth of about a foot the first year, 30 inches the second year, and after the third year they will need no cultivation. They can be transplanted at one or two years old, but don't bear it as patiently as some other trees; hence, it is advised to plant the nuts in the fall, where the trees are to stand. A Mr. Whiting, of Iowa, planted 65 bushels of the nuts one season in rows of 5 feet apart, and two and a half feet apart in the rows. He says they attained the height of five to six feet the second year, and grew five to seven feet the third year. He says cottonwood, soft maple, and black walnut are the best trees for forest culture. The nuts should be planted in the fall and about three inches deep.

A San Antonio paper of recent date gives an account of a grove of black walnut trees, ten acres in extent, planted by S. Graves, ten years ago, on his farm west of Waxahatchie, Texas. There are 2000 trees, which the owner estimates will yield 400 bushels of walnuts this year, worth \$2.50 per bushel or \$1000 for the crop of ten acres. One hundred dollars per acre is pretty good rent for land worth \$15 an acre. Mr. Graves says: "The trees are nine inches in diameter, and are growing an inch per year. When they are twenty years old they will be nineteen inches through, and will be worth \$55 each. That is, in ten years from now my 2000 trees will be worth \$55,000. I cut half of them and raise a bushel of walnuts to the tree each year from the other half, will give me an income of \$2,500 per year."

If walnuts are worth \$2.50 per bushel in Texas, it ought to stimulate the culture of this tree. They sold in this city last fall at \$1.00 per bushel, and at this price it will pay to cultivate walnut trees on cheap lands. As the trees grow older the growth is less rapid. However this estimate of \$25 for the value of each sound tree at 20 years of age is low enough.—Ohio Farmer.

A London authority gives the following mode of procedure in layering roses: About the middle of July, in most seasons, the shoots will be found about eighteen inches or two feet in length; from these two-thirds of their length, the leaves should be cut off close to the shoot, beginning at the base, with a very sharp knife; the shoot must then be "tongued," i. e., the knife introduced just below a bud and brought upwards, so as to cut about half way through. This must be done at the side or back of the shoot (not by any means at the front or in the bend), so that the tongue does not close. To make this certain, a small piece of glass or thin earthenware may be introduced to keep it open. Much nicety is required to have the tongue at the upper part of the shoot, so as not to be in the part which forms the bow, as it is of consequence that it should be

within two inches of the surface, so as to feel the effects of the atmospheric heat; unless this is attended to, the tongue will not be emitted quickly. The tongue put on the surface of the ground, stone put on the surface of the ground to keep the layer in its place. The first week in November the layers must be taken from the parent plant, and either potted as required or planted out where they are to remain. Those shoots not long enough in July and August may be layered in October, when the layers are taken from the stools; and, if any are forgotten, February and March will be the most favorable months for the operation. As a general rule, July is the most proper season.

The Cultivation of the Sumac.

There are thousands of people who wander through the woods in autumn, picking the beautiful scarlet and yellow leaves of the sumac bush to decorate their rooms, without knowing that there is any other use for the plant. Yet the importation of the sumac into this country, this year, will amount to about 11,000 tons, costing about \$1,000,000. The leaves of the sumac, dried and ground, are largely used in tanning and dyeing, and in Sicily and other parts of Italy the plant is carefully cultivated and treated. In view of the fact that the American sumac contains from six to eight percent more tannic acid than the Italian, and remembering that the plant grows in wild profusion throughout the country, it seems reasonable to believe that it might be a very profitable crop. At the present time the amount of native sumac brought into market does not exceed 8,000 tons yearly, and its market price is only \$50 per ton, just half the price of the Italian product. This large difference in the market value of the foreign and domestic article is due to the fact the American sumac, as at present prepared, is not suitable for making the finer white leather so much used for gloves and fancy shoes, owing to its giving a disagreeable yellow or dirty color.

The many attempts that have been made to avoid this difficulty by care in collecting and grinding the leaves have not resulted in success, and it has long been supposed that this objectionable quality was inherent in the American plant; but Mr. William McMurtrie, in a report to the United States Commissioner of Agriculture, shows that this difficulty can be surmounted and the American product made even superior to the foreign. Mr. McMurtrie, made a number of tests to learn the relative amounts of tannic acid found in the leaves at different periods of their development, and while the amount was found to be greatest in the leaves gathered in July, he found that those gathered in full development in June were even then more than equal to the best foreign leaves in this respect. But, further, he found that the deleterious coloring matter (due to the presence of quercitrin and quercetin) was not yet developed, and that therefore the American leaves gathered in June were superior to the Italian for all purposes.

The importance of this discovery may be seen by the fact that the cultivation of the plant may be carried on most profitably in this country as soon as manufacturers and dealers recognize the improvement thus obtained in the domestic article, and by classifying it according to its percentage of tannic acid, and its relative freedom from coloring matter, advance the price of that which is early picked and carefully treated. In Italy the sumac is planted in shoots in the spring, in rows and is cultivated in the same way and about to the same extent as corn. It gives a crop the second year after setting out and regularly thereafter. The sumac gathered in this country is taken mostly from wild plants growing on waste land, but there is no reason why it should not be utilized and cultivated on land not valuable for other purposes.—Scientific American.

Fruit Notes.

Florida oranges are highly spoken of by Englishmen. A London writer says: "I tasted quite lately some of the first oranges that reached London, from the southern States of America. They are distinctly superior to those from either Spain or Portugal."

Early peaches undoubtedly pay. Mr. Sheed, of Jonesboro, is shipping peaches to New York at sixteen dollars per bushel. Harmon & Moses, of Tennessee, shipped nine crates to Savannah last week, which were sold for twenty-five cents a peach. Up to last Monday, Mr. Rumph, of Marshallville, had shipped two hundred and fifty crates of peaches and will ship two hundred more next Monday. Of those sold, the returns show an average of twenty-four to twenty-eight dollars per bushel.—Savannah News.

It may be said briefly that all summer pruning, cutting back, root pruning or any other practice that strikes at the life of the tree, or retards the growth in summer, tends to the formation of fruit buds. Among these are bending down or gently breaking in branches, hanging weights on them, tying them down to stakes, slightly barking the tree or branches in June, etc. But it must be borne in mind that all such checking or pruning should be done carefully and judiciously, to balance or check the force of the tree and retard its wood growth, if the tree is large enough to bear and fruit is desired.

Popular American Pears.—The recently published catalogue of the American Pomological Society gives a favorable report of the Bartlett (Williams) in thirty-seven States, in twenty-two hundred and fifty crates of peaches and will ship two hundred more next Monday. Of those sold, the returns show an average of twenty-four to twenty-eight dollars per bushel.—Savannah News.

fact that fruit culture has made such general progress that these 16 varieties have already been sufficiently cultivated in from one-half to three-fourths of the States and Territories (except a few west of the Rocky Mountains), as to bear recommending in each for general cultivation, and there are a still larger number of additional sorts that are recommended in from ten to twenty States.—Country Gentleman.

Parker Earle has the following fruit notes in the Farmer and Fruit Grower: The Japan melon crop has never been of better quality in this country than it is this season. Mr. Asa Harmon has already shipped about 200 bushel crates, which have sold at about \$4 a crate in Chicago. Other growers are also taking in the money with their melons, and the shipments have but just begun. One car load was shipped from Anna on July 16th.

The Pien-to, or flat Chinese, peach is creating quite a furore in the south. It flourishes finely around Mobile and Pensacola, and also throughout the peninsula of Florida. It is a large, very early peach, some specimens of which sold in New York this season for \$6 per dozen. As it comes into bearing at once when budded on old trees, it puts the orange all in the shade for profit. Those who are in a hurry to accumulate "filthy lucre" will do well to go slow on this peach north of the Gulf slope. We doubt if it will succeed farther north than Tennessee, though it has proved hardier in Florida than the Hale's Early. Buds are scarce, but those wishing to try it, may possibly procure a few of Mr. Lipsey of Acher, Florida.

That beautiful grape, the Noah, is rapidly gaining favor wherever planted. It is an almost transparent white grape, when in perfection, of good medium or large size in berry, and large in cluster, with very fair flavor. It is a good regular bearer; very hardy, having withstood the last winter unprotected on the trellis without the least injury, and during the five years we have fruited it, has shown not the least disposition to rot. While it is a fair table grape, it makes a very good white wine. At Dayton, Ohio, Prof. Husmann says this grape is in great favor as a good and productive vine. It does not drop from the bunch with us until several days after being cut from the vine, giving ample time for pressing or marketing. This white grape, and the Ives as a black grape, are reliable and safe to plant. The Ives this year, is full of fine looking grapes, and though not so popular as the Concord for a table grape, is more satisfactory to the vineyardist, from the surety of getting a crop. Those who wish to grow grapes to rot, should plant the Concord. Those who wish grapes to ripen, should plant the Noah and Ives.

Peaches About Madison, Ind.

On Saturday and Monday a great many of the peach growers from Kentucky were on our streets comparing notes and making arrangements for the busy season. Among them we noticed Capt. Andrew J. Trout, Wm. Buchanan, Mr. McKay, Capt. Connell, J. S. Maddux and Mr. King. There were several buyers, trying to engage crops by the bushel, delivered, or on the trees; of these Jos. O. Taylor, Col John A. Miller, S. Hitz and Messrs. Habitzel & Page, of the Canning Factory, seemed the most active. The orchard men seemed a little offish, so if any sales were made terms were private. But few crops have been sold this season compared to same date last year. Jos. O. Taylor & Co. of this city, have made the only purchase we know of, having bought four crops, whether for themselves or others we cannot say.

We trust that the Madison cannery will have the support of the growers, as it is a home institution; still there is a strong desire among the growers for some competition in that line. One of the Cincinnati drummers asked where the Star Preserve Works, of Fisher & Co., Cincinnati, had located their branch, as he had seen a notice in the Cincinnati papers that they purposed opening in Madison this season. The peachmen are happy. The failure of the crop in the east and north gives them a clear field, fenced in by prosperous times. Our city has as residents three of the largest peach growers in the west. J. C. Davis, whose orchard of 40,000 trees at Otto, Ind., promises him a crop of 30,000 bushels; Colonel Court. Whitsett, of the well known Leming orchards, located immediately opposite the city, will gather 25,000 bushels; Jos. O. Taylor, of the firm of Jos. O. Taylor & Co., who is interested in ten Kentucky orchards from two to six miles distant from the city. Their report of their crop is they will have as many as any firm in the country. None of these men claim to be peach kings, but give the crown to Col. Ed. Wilkinson, of Clatsworth, Maryland, who has 1,350 acres in orchard.

There will probably be 150,000 bushels of peaches grown in this vicinity, by our estimate.

J. C. Davis,	30,000
Court Whitsett,	20,000
Jos. O. Taylor & Co.,	20,000
Argus Dean,	15,000
Howell & Co.,	10,000
Moffet,	6,000
Trout,	10,000
Morris,	4,000
Other growers,	20,000

Argus Dean expects to ship a car per day by express to New York city, if he can get any of the Madison men to join him. The latter, however, seem to think Chicago a better point, as Messrs. Taylor Whitsett and Miller expect to go to that point in a few days to establish a depot for the sale of their fruit.

Mr. Logan our affable railroad agent is alive, and says the shippers shall have better cars than last year, fair rates and quick time. The Mail Line Co., are, through their agents, Mosely and Devine, of Milton, trying to secure shipments of fruit at that point. They propose fair rates, but can offer no inducements as to time.

If one or two packing houses locate here for the season, where there are a number of suitable buildings, and where labor is plenty and cheap, all the peaches will come to this point, either for sale or shipment.

If our business men are alive to their interests they will make some efforts to induce some Baltimore or Cincinnati packers to open up here this year. Evans, Day & Co., when here in 1878, did a large business, and the men with whom they dealt, as well as their old employees, would be glad to have them return. The building they occupied at that time is now vacant, and we understand they have been corresponding with Mr. Peter Weber in reference to it. Mr. Peter Cosby's big shing machine will soon be running, and he says he will outfit enough to reach to Baltimore, if wanted.—Madison Paper.

Pickling Cucumbers.

W. D. P. writes to the New-England Farmer with reference to various points in making cucumber pickles:

It may be said, some of our readers to know how strong to make the brine; if made too strong it will sometimes cause the pickles to wilt or wither, in which condition they are not saleable, and if too weak they will ferment too much and get soft. The proper strength is just enough to float a potato. If your subscriber wishes to market his pickles in vinegar, they must be taken out of the brine about a week before being sold; when taken out they are at once placed in fresh water, and the water changed twice a day until the pickles taste quite fresh, which usually takes two or three days. The pickles are then placed in strong cider or whiskey vinegar, and spiced to suit the taste of the customer.

It was formerly the almost universal custom to scald the pickles in a copper kettle after freshening and before placing them in vinegar; the verdigris of the kettles would impart a bright green to the pickles, somewhat like the color of freshly picked cucumbers, and more attractive to the eye than the dirty, yellowish green of a salted pickle. The very small amount of copper required to impart this color was probably harmless, for I am not aware that any case of copper poisoning ever resulted from the consumption of the enormous quantities of pickles that were a few years ago prepared in this way; but of late years, the fashion has changed, probably through a knowledge on the part of the buyer of the source of the green color, and a fear of injurious effects therefrom, and now the demand for green pickles is very light as compared with the so-called English pickles that are prepared without copper; they have a dull, yellowish green color, but are crisp and good, and as digestible as a cucumber can be, which is not saying much.

Canadian Canned Products.

With pleasure we learn that two canning establishments are to be erected and put in operation in Hamilton, Ont., this summer. One of these buildings is to be of stone, two stories high, 40 x 144. In this building 150 women and girls will be employed for four months in the year, and 50 for the remainder of the time. This company is meeting with considerable encouragement from farmers and fruit-growers of the district, and some having made contracts with the company, and are growing from five to ten acres of tomatoes this season especially for canning purposes. This very important industry of preserving fruits and vegetables in hermetically sealed tins was introduced into the United States as an experiment about twenty years ago, and has in every particular been a grand success. It was first begun in Baltimore on a small scale, and that city still maintains its supremacy in this trade, having established a number of large factories, which give employment to great numbers of men, women and children. Establishments of this kind are found in various States of the Union, all giving evidence of increasing business and profitable results. Nearly every kind of fruit and vegetable is preserved by this process; and when these goods have been exhibited at the great exhibitions in foreign countries they have attracted unusual attention, and the exhibitors have received many orders from European dealers, where the goods are highly appreciated and eagerly sought after.

The export trade in canned fruits, vegetables and meats from the United States, although in its infancy, has already assumed gigantic proportions, and is rapidly increasing. As far back as 1877 their yearly canned exports amounted to 21,000,000 lbs., which was valued at more than one million dollars. Large cargoes of these goods are sent to nearly every country in Europe; also to Australia and Egypt.

Horticultural Notes.

A horticultural fair is to be held at Chicago beginning Sept. 7. It will be in connection with the Inter-State Exposition. \$2,500 in premiums is offered for various collections of fruit flowers and seeds.

The beneficial influence of a weak alkali wash upon the bark of fruit trees is of long standing acknowledgement. Its action is in expansion of the pores, while at the same time it is destructive of all insect life, sporadic or otherwise. Horticulturists differ as to the best time to apply it, but we have always found that if good common sense is used in preparing it the time for application is always good.

Food for Roses.—Get some soot from a chimney or stove where wood is used for fuel, put it in an old pitcher and pour hot water upon it. When cool use it to water your plants every few days. When it is all used fill the pitcher again with hot water. The effect upon roses that have almost hopelessly deteriorated is wonderful in producing a rapid growth of thrifty shoots, with large thick leaves and a great number of richly tinted roses. Never despair of a decayed rosebush until this has been tried.

Liquid Manure for Roses.—The Rural New Yorker reports an experiment performed by G. S. Wales in applying liquid manure to roses, which although not new, is worthy of notice for its success. Small plants have been set out on clayey soil, and after every heavy rain which had furnished leachings from the manure pile in the barnyard, it was applied to the roses in a few holes made within four or five inches of each plant with a sharpened wooden rod. The next day the soil was stirred with a hoe. The operation was repeated eight or nine times through the season, and the result was reported to be wonderful; the blooming continued through the summer into October.

One of the greatest vegetable phenomena, though not so useful to mankind as the bread-corn, appears to be the Felo de Vaca, or cow-tre. This plant produces a glutinous liquid like an animal. It frequently grows upon the barren sides of a rock, and has dry, coriaceous leaves. For several months in the year its foliage is not moistened by a single drop of rain, and its branches appear entirely dried up. But upon piercing the trunk, particularly at the rising of the sun, there flows a sweet and nourishing yellow juice, having a balsamic perfume, with many of the qualities of milk. In the morning the natives of the country in which this vegetable fountain grows, visit it with bowls, in which they carry home its milk for their children. "So that this tree," says Humboldt, "seems to present the picture of a shepherd distributing the milk of his flock." The Araguans call it the cow; the milk-tree. Humboldt, Kunth and Bredemeyer saw the fruit of this tree, but no naturalist has yet seen the flower.

Carbolic Sheep Dip is the best. Address G. Millinekrodt & Co., St. Louis, send for circulars.

Canning Tomatoes.

Many people who are quite successful in canning fruits generally, are apt to fail with the tomato. A lady writer in Parly's Fruit Recorder, gives the following very interesting account of how she succeeds:

"We have ten acres of fruit of all kinds and I take a great deal of pride in canning fruit. I get nearly all the prices at the fairs. I wish you could just peep into my cellar to see my tomatoes and peaches, some canned last fall and some a year ago, not mentioning my other fruit. I will tell you how I can my tomatoes—both red and yellow. I pick the tomatoes—the smoothest and best shaped—and scald and skin them very carefully; take the stem out with a pen knife, taking care not to cut the tomato so as to let the juice or seeds run out; then I place them in the cans, some of them with the stem end next to the can and some with the blossom end; then I take the juice that has run out of some that I have peeled to cook, having no seeds nor pulp, and add a little salt, and pour on my whole tomatoes until nearly full; then place them in a kettle of cold water, and let them cook till I think they are hot clear through; then I seal them. I use nothing but glass jars two-quart jars—and after the cover has been on about five minutes I take it off so they will settle, letting the gas out; then I fill up with juice and seal again, and my cans are always full to the cover. A great many have not learned this. You have no idea how nice they look through the glass; they show every vein and rib and look as if they were put up raw, and when used they are just as if they had been taken from the vines—and if you don't believe me try it this summer. I always keep my fruit in the dark, and it don't fade through the glass."

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Reader, if not a subscriber, send one dollar and get the weekly visits of this paper for one year.

Creve Coeur Lake continues to grow in popularity. There were numbers of pleasure parties there last week which enjoyed the boating, fishing and other recreations peculiar to the locality.

Material for the larder and table has increased wonderfully in price over last year, and many hotel men and restaurant keepers have had to put up prices; others consider they are doing well if they pay expenses.

The St. Louis Sportsman has made its appearance and is an elegant sixteen page paper. More variety infused into its columns would make it a fine success. As it is it compares favorably with established papers of its class.

St. Louis is deserted at present and all the people who could get away last week did so. The out-going trains were packed with ladies and children, mothers being unwilling to risk another heated term in town—and the same was threatened last week.

A fine shower gladdened the hearts of farmers, on Sunday evening, about St. Louis. It was much needed and did much good. Two or three days of last week the heat was terrific—the thermometer indicating above one hundred in the shade.

The corn crop is a more important crop to the country at large than the wheat crop, and while there is barely a two-thirds average crop of the latter, there will be a full crop of the former. The wheat crop however, will command about the same money that a full crop would have brought.

Last week Vennor the Canadian prophet sent a postal card to the Fat Men's Club of St. Louis saying, "Here-with I enclose a cold wave as you desired. Why didn't you say so before." Sure enough on the day the card was received the weather took a pleasant change and has continued so.

Those whose subscriptions expire, even in this hot weather, should bear in mind that the paper is discontinued as promptly as when the thermometer stands at zero. Look at your label and if you see July 31 upon it, it notifies you that the time is up and that you will be without a paper next week. Promptness is a business virtue, in a case like this.

On Sunday the country was thrown into a terrible state of alarm and perturbation by a severe chill and consequent relapse sustained by President Garfield. The services of distinguished physicians from New York and Philadelphia were called into requisition, and after an operation to increase the flow of pus in the wound he was much relieved and doing well at last accounts.

One of the troubles of the times is that our law makers and even our law judges are too much corporatized. It is only friends of great corporations that can get into places of honor and trust. This extends even to placing judges on the bench of the supreme court of the United States. This country will ere long be entirely under the control of the money power. "Money makes the mare go" in politics as in everything else.

What a mistake to send so many lean cattle to market. Any one visiting our cattle marts would think sellers were crazy to send cattle to market in such poor condition. The selling price is much less per pound, and the weight might be greatly increased, all to the advantage of the farmer's pocket. By all means send stock to market fat if you want to claim good prices. Fat cattle are snapped up in market like minnows by bass, while poor cattle no one wants.

Before our next issue the governor of the state and the railroad corporations will offer a large money reward for the capture of the desperate brigands who recently committed the train robbery and accompanying murders recently near Kansas City. This lawless exploit has been heralded all over Europe as an example of western progress and civilization, and the terrible details have not lost in the telling. The only way to counteract this damage is to catch the scoundrels and deal summary justice out to them. All citizens interested in the welfare of the state should aid in this work.

We are glad and yet sad. One of our Home Circle correspondents, that has done much to keep up interest in that department for several years has departed the life of single blessedness and entered that of matrimonial bliss. She is a general favorite with our readers. We rejoice at her marriage, and hope

the pathway of the twain, may be strewn with flowers. We are sad, fearing domestic duties may interfere with that free use of the pen, which she has exercised so acceptably to our readers for so long a time. We have never had the pleasure of meeting her, though she and her spouse visited the sanctum the day of the wedding. We deeply regret our absence. It was Nina that called. She is the wife of an M. D.

The Globe-Democrat of July 25th, is rather hard on Stanley Matthews, one of the Judges of the United States Supreme Court. It says that "Stanley Matthews, in public and private life, had always, prior to his judicial elevation, been against the people and in favor of the monopolies."

It is hard for old dogs to learn new tricks. This is a trite adage, and the learning he has had in his training and practices will cling to him in his judicial position. He owes his elevation to the influence and power of the great railroad kings, and it will be as natural for him now to lean towards them as it is for water to run down hill. He will naturally sustain those who have sustained him. Human nature is the same in or out of office.

The yield of grass in most pastures might be doubled by keeping the weeds out of them and by not allowing the grass to be cropped too short. A large amount of the fertilizing material in land is allowed to be absorbed by worthless weeds and thistles. Grass should take the place of these and would if they were kept weeded out. On a late visit to Kentucky we found most luxuriant pastures with scarcely a weed in them. This was so in accordance for as we saw gangs of men pulling out the weeds. Where they are very thick, as they are in most pastures, the mowing machine should be freely used, allowing none of the weeds to go to seed. Pastures should be kept as free of obstructions to mowing machines, as meadows are, so they can be freely used. Then we shall get profitable yields of grass.

The Lessons of Sun Stroke.

It is a remarkable fact that although the heated terms experienced this year in St. Louis have been the most intense in point of high temperature ever experienced here, the death rate has been remarkably small, and although a large numerical aggregate will be the mortality exhibit, still the same will be exceedingly small in comparison with corresponding terms in previous summers. In the first place there has been a very decided decrease in the deaths of children which is accountable for in several ways. The drainage of the city, the better water system and the clearing out of malarial influences, such as cess pools, stagnant ponds, etc., and the better care and education of the youngsters in their diet and cleanliness, has had the effect of reducing the comparative death rate one half. But this is not altogether apposite to the subject we wish to refer to particularly.

Those who attended the dispensary during the last spells of several years back must have been struck by several important circumstances. First, that very few persons who were in a physically clean condition were sun struck or prostrated by the heat; ergo people are keeping their skin in a better state of purification than formerly. A good sponge bath every morning or, better still, every morning and evening, is a luxury which entails very slight expense trouble or loss of time, while the effects prove so beneficial that no one ever inaugurating the practice will stop it. In connection with physical cleanliness, quite a number, in fact a large proportion, of the patients and those in the most dangerous condition—were those whose systems were permeated with alcohol, recently absorbed. Here is another circumstance which is in itself remarkable and worthy of more minute consideration than our space will permit us to give it. A few years ago the use of whiskey as a beverage and stimulant was at least in the proportion of 5 to 1 with the consumption to-day. If there are any doubts upon this subject a canvas of the saloons of St. Louis will demonstrate the truth of the assertion. Drunkenness on the street, a primary point of observation has decreased wonderfully. Again, a notable number of the most elegantly appointed saloons have rusted out for want of patronage after years of prosperity, while those that remain find their trade in alcoholic drinks decreased sensibly and a goodly proportion of these, who, five years ago would have scoffed at the idea of keeping lager beer on draught, now have to do so to retain their trade and custom. This is not intended as a temperance lecture, but it seems a matter of fact that consumption of alcohol has decreased in correspondence with the increased use of lager beer, light wines, etc., and from the standard of the summer death rate statistics to the physical benefit of the male population, surely none will regret the decrease in violet stimulants, however liberal their regard to persons using their own free will and judgment, and this seems to be the most consistent means of correcting a great local evil.

While on the subject of intemperance it is not out of place to allude to another class, which was well represented at the dispensary during the dangerous period. This was the class of intemperate eaters. Very few persons can stand the heavy strain on the forces of the stomach which is requisite to digest a heavy breakfast of hot meats, cakes and hot bread, eggs and hot coffee. The peculiar menu which suits one person does not always adapt itself to others, but our own personal experience is that we thrive better, do our work with clearer conception and in quicker time, upon a matutinal repast of dry toast, tea, with perhaps a little oat-meal mush or a dish of ice-cold sliced tomatoes; fruit is also an excellent accompaniment to the breakfast table. A light dinner and lighter supper are advisable to the general run, but there is no more difficult matter to advise people upon: that their eating is immoderate, ill-considered and dangerous. And yet this class of intemperates are stricken down in warm weather with quite as much effect as those who imbibe too much liquid fuel.

THE CROP OUTLOOK.

Correspondents of the Chicago Times have canvassed the condition of the wheat and other crops and find all cereals, but particularly wheat, are now in a critical condition, where changes in the weather will have a marked effect on them. There have been several storms so recently that farmers have hardly had a chance yet to estimate the amount of damage inflicted by them, and it is to be noted there has been in this region one severe storm since observations upon which the correspondents based their reports. Estimates of the injury by storms in the dispatches are therefore much more apt to be below than above the truth. The general view of the wheat-growing region shows the crop will fall far below that of last year. The heavy losses that are inevitable in states that may be called those of the central west, where a great part of the wheat of the country is raised, cannot be made good by any exceptional productions in other regions. Illinois stands first among the wheat producing states of the Union, and reports from all parts of this state are so extremely bad that it is hardly worth while to try to sum them up. Here and there are counties that make tolerably fair reports, but they are few and far between, and it will frequently be found where the yield per acre promises well the acreage has been greatly reduced since last year, so that the crop is certain to be light. Reports relate principally to spring wheat, the cultivation of which in this state has been declining. Nearly every county reports a decrease in area since last year, and in many localities unfavorable weather and other cereal evils have made crops nearly a failure. There will be a good deal of winter wheat, but not nearly as much as last year, the long hard winter having killed the plant in many localities. Here and there a county reports wheat to be good, but one county reports that the chinch bugs have eaten three-fifths of the crop, and while some counties report the crop a total loss others report that they will produce only from one to two thirds as much wheat as in average wheat years. This state finds a companion in misfortune in Iowa. There the average of spring wheat has greatly fallen off, with few exceptions all counties report small yields. Iowa complains of about everything that effects wheat—the season, the weather, the rust and the chinch bug. One county reports a large yield as 15 to 18 bushels per acre, but the area is small. Other counties report "half crop," "less than half crop," "small area," "light yield," etc. In two or three counties there is an area as large as last year, or even larger, and a good quality of wheat, but these are exceptions. From Ohio the indications are much better. Lake county promises nineteen bushels per acre and other counties report a satisfactory prospect. In one there is increased acreage to offset the decreased yield, and in others affairs are not bad, though the product of the state is not likely to reach the figures of last year. Indications from Indiana are of a two-thirds yield of winter wheat. In Michigan wheat promises rather better than it did a few weeks ago. The yield per acre will be below the average, and though the average is increased in some parts, this will not bring the total up to last year's crop. The loss is mainly in the spring wheat, winter wheat being pretty fair. Reports from Wisconsin vary widely. The spring wheat acreage, taking the state through, is much less than last year. A couple of counties report two thirds the acreage of last year, but the yield is good. Around Sturgeon Bay the wheat is all that can be desired. From some other localities reports are equally good, but these are exceptions. In one or two where the yield promises to be good the area is small and most of the counties report light yields or half or two-thirds average. The chinch bug has made a good deal of trouble here and in one or two counties has taken almost the entire crop. In the northwest the condition is better. In Minnesota some counties have chinch bugs and rust and complain of bad weather, but others tell of brilliant prospects; condition A No. 1 and yields of 16 to 30 bushels to the acre. Wheat seems to be very unequal in different parts of the state, but a majority of the reports are fair to first rate. In Nebraska the yield per acre is less than an average, but the increased acreage in the western part of the state will raise the total yield of the state to one-third more than the crop of last year. Chinch bugs have made some trouble, but mainly in a single county. Several counties in Dakota report less than an average yield per acre, but the Red River valley has not been invaded by the rust, blight or insects and the general condition of wheat is good. The valley promises a crop of five million bushels. Other crops than wheat are almost uniformly reported to be in good condition in all of these states. Corn promises an abundant yield, and from nearly all points come favorable reports of corn and barley. The army worm is doing a good deal of damage to oats in northern and central Illinois, mainly on the lines of Rock Island and Burlington roads. When the worms cannot find oats tender enough to suit them they attack the corn. The amount of damage done by them varies widely with the localities. The worms are in Iowa, but so far as reported their ravages there are on a small scale. In other states the worms do not seem to have appeared.

The Iowa crop prospects, from the monthly crop report for July, are prepared by

John R. Shaffer, secretary of the State Agricultural society; 100 is the basis of comparison. The general average is given. Corn—97 counties, representing 784 townships, place the average condition of crop at 77 per cent.—about 4 per cent. decrease of the crop since June 15. Heavy rains, winds, and hail-storms have reduced the prospects. The wire and cut worms are still at work, and many acres are worthless for want of cultivation, caused by excessive wet weather. The decrease product compared with the previous year is estimated at sixty million bushels. Broom Corn—Sixty-one counties, representing one hundred and twenty-three townships, give the average condition at 74 per cent., a decrease of 10 per cent. since the June report. Winter Wheat—Sixty-three counties, representing 267 townships, place the average condition at 55 per cent., a decrease of 32 per cent. in one month. Many acres were plowed up, being water-killed. Chinch-bugs and rust have been fatal to the crop. Spring Wheat—724 townships in 88 counties give the average condition of the crop at 71 per cent., a decrease of 16 per cent. since the June report. The loss is attributed to chinch-bug rust, wind, and hail storms, and much of it in the ground is reported not worth harvesting. Des Moines county reports the largest average, 18 per cent. The highest average is Hancock and Kosciusko counties, 100 per cent. Basing an estimate on these figures compared with the crop of the previous year and there will be a deficit in produce of 17,000,000 bushels. Spring Barley—Eighty counties from 338 townships report the condition at 38 per cent. Winter Barley—Only 14 counties and townships report the condition of this crop, which is 72½ per cent. Oats—Ninety-seven counties, represented by 793 townships, place the average condition at 92 per cent. There is some complaint of rust and lodging. Flax—Five hundred and ten townships, reporting from 89 counties, give the average condition at 99 per cent., an increased prospect in product of 9 per cent. over the previous report. The area has been largely extended, and promises to give better results than any other crop grown. Sorghum, or amber Corn—Ninety-two counties, represented by 577 townships, place the average condition at 81 per cent. Irish Potatoes—Ninety-seven counties, from 777 townships, place the condition at 93 per cent. There is some complaint of bugs injuring the crop prospects. Sweet Potatoes—Sixty-seven counties, from 304 townships, give the condition at 88½ per cent.

Farm Notes.

The Kentucky blue grass seed crop is said to be immense this year and prices will be lower than usual. This is good news for the South, and we hope the low price of seed will have the effect of encouraging farmers to seed large areas of land this fall. On all lime lands, blue grass is a decided success in the Gulf States. It is claimed that the land along the Saskatchewan, away off in the northwest Territory, will yield as a steady average from twenty five bushels of wheat per acre, weighing from sixty-eight to seventy pounds per bushel. A gentleman writing from a point five hundred miles northwest of Winnipeg says that the country there is far superior to that of the Red River Valley, for wheat raising purposes. When land that gets the benefit of sun and rain for a few weeks before sowing time, invariably produces a better crop than that which is plowed up and sown immediately. This early plowing is of especial importance when there is a growth of grass or weed to plow under. The fermentation in the soil of a mass of green vegetable matter, and the subsequent settling of the soils seems to have a bad effect on the crop.

The multiplication of cotton seed oil mills in the southern States is rapid. There is a brisk demand for the oil both in this country and Europe, for lubricating machinery and for mixing, often being refined with more expensive oils. The residue of the seed is pressed into cakes and largely sent abroad for feeding live stock. It is excellent food for milch cows when it is mixed with bran, and it ought to be consumed in this country. There was a landowner in the south of Scotland with a considerable income, I think between £2000 and £3000 a year, but every penny of his income derived from land. He has a wife, three daughters grown up, and a son who was an infant when his father died. His father had left no will. The whole of this land, and every penny of this income, went to the infant son, and until this boy came to twenty-one years of age, his mother and sisters were in absolute destitution.

Mr. M. D. Kendig, Creswell, Penn., raised on a six acre field last year 89½ bushels of dry shelled corn per acre, actual measurement. It was planted 3 feet 4 inches apart each way, and two stalks allowed to grow in a hill. "The ground having been thoroughly worked up and pulverized before planting after cultivation was very early and simple. An occasional harrowing, to keep the ground loose and mellow, was all it received. No hoe in the field all season, except in planting time."

The average results of experiment and theory, so to speak, make fifty pounds of Indian corn, equal to 100 pounds of hay, or 1,140 pounds of Indian corn to the ton of hay. But it must be remembered that the nutritive effect of food upon an animal are varied by many causes, and also that the composition of foods is affected by the object sought, as fat, growth, labor, milk, etc. The above is the relative amount of nutritive matter in corn and hay, as determined by experience and theory.

A farmer who has grown millet each season for over twenty years, says: "It is ready to cut for hay as soon as it is evenly headed out. The development of the heads can be watched, and as soon as they exhibit a tendency to develop into the milk stage, cut immediately. The mistake is too often made of delaying the cutting until the seed has hardened, and of course the fibre of the stalk has become toughened; has taken on a more unassimilable nature, and has been on a large scale largely its feed value. In the beginning of the milk stage of the seed, my opinion is that well cured millet is superior to timothy, not only as a food, but also in milk producing qualities, and with no other hay can I come so near making butter having a June aroma in March and April, as I can with my early cut millet."

Waldo suggesting convenient things for farmers to have around, says, in the Ohio Farmer. A box of iron bolts and washers of various sizes is of great value. Buy a whole dollars' worth of these at a time, and you will be surprised to see how large a stock and how great an assortment it will purchase. And I should not wonder if these bolts saved a trip to town and from a fourth to a half day's time of the team, several times before they are gone. You need some rainy days to rig up an old cupboard in a barn or to rig up some old building in which to keep

these bolts and two or three wrenches, and you should add to it a few open links, an extra open ring or two, a good supply of leather strings, and a few rivets. Of course you will need tacks, brads, shingle nails, etc., in addition."

The "Valley Farmer" makes the following statement as to a new use of broom corn seed: Broom corn is likely at no distant day to revolutionize the bread stuff supply of the world. A process has been discovered by which flour can be made from the seed to the extent of one-half its own weight, and leave the other half a valuable food for making beef and milk. The average yield per acre is three hundred and in a number of instances five hundred bushels, or thirty thousand pounds, have been secured. Nor does it exhaust the soil as Indian corn, from the fact that it feeds on the deeper soil and assimilates its food from a crude state. It belongs to the same genus as sorghum, which as an article of food is growing in public esteem, and from the seed of which a most nutritious flour can be obtained.

COL. COLMAN: Concord Grange, No. 1775, will have a grand picnic on Saturday, August 20th, 1881, ten miles southeast of Shelbyville, Shelby county, Mo. The members of the order and citizens generally would be well pleased if you could meet with them on that day, and speak to them for the good of the order. If you can come, we will give you a hearty welcome—meet you at Shelbyville, and bring you back whenever you want to come. Trains on railroad run each way daily, Sunday's not excepted. Please let us hear from you at earliest convenience, and oblige. W. T. DRAN, Shelbyville, Mo., July 23.

REPLY.—Invitation accepted. Will be present if nothing unusual occurs to prevent us.

COL. COLMAN: I have been requested by our grange to invite you to our picnic and fruit show, which will be held about two miles east of Villa Ridge on the 17th of August. If we can make the arrangements to secure you to deliver the address, we expect to exhibit the products of the farm in general as well as fruit and vegetables. We will cheerfully bear your expenses and make your visit agreeable to you. We are erecting a large shed for the exhibition of fruits, vegetables, grain, etc. An early reply will be thankfully received. THOS. BUCKLE, Master Grange, No. 1616, Villa Ridge, Ill.

REPLY.—Invitation accepted. Will be present if possible.

There is a general objection to allowing grass to become over a few inches high in pastures, as it will become tough and not relished by stock. Such is not the case with blue grass, except in May and June, when it goes to seed. For fall and winter pasture the taller grass the tenderer it is. And the way blue grass is generally treated is the greatest reason why it is unpopular with many graziers. Blue grass must never be eaten off close as is the custom with other grasses. It should be so managed by the owner that it will always have a heavy coat on the ground. When the grass is short, the sun strikes the ground, parches the soil, or dries up the roots of the grass, and growth ceases. Rains have but little effect, as the hot sun soon dries up the dampness, and in one day the same place is as dry as before. Whilst, if a substantial crop is allowed to accumulate, the long grass will produce a constant and luxurious crop, supplying three times as much pasture as when cropped short. If this practice were once inaugurated by those now objecting to blue grass, the full virtues of this kind of pasture would be more fully appreciated. Keep in mind that if the soil is well fed and not stripped bare of its covering, it will furnish a full return for expense and capital invested. After going to seed early in June, blue grass never becomes tough or tasteless, and no loss will occur if it is allowed to grow uncropped to any height. Blue grass can be safely sown on the snows of winter. But it is useless to spend time spreading seed if it has the least taint of must, caused by heating in some process of gathering, preserving in the straw, or being too closely packed after it is threshed. Most failures in success in this grass grow out of defective seed. The best way is for every farmer to gather his own seed when it is ripe in June, and preserve it carefully. But sow freely and largely. You need not experiment with it to see if it will do. Its character is so well known and is true merits so fully established that there is more sense in experimenting with corn and potatoes. If the seed can be obtained, withhold not the hand. Sow on pastures, along lanes, in fence corners, in groves, on steep or broken lands, and it will pay, and pay richly.—Iowa Register.

Poverty and Distress.

That poverty which produces the greatest distress is not of the purse but of the blood. Deprived of its richness it becomes scant and watery, a condition termed *anemia* in medical writings. Given this condition, and scrofulous swellings, sores, general and nervous debility, loss of flesh and appetite, weak lungs, throat diseases, spitting of blood and consumption, are among the common results. If you are a sufferer from this poor blood employ Dr. Pierce's "Golden Medical Discovery," which enriches the blood and cures these grave affections. Is more nutritive than cod liver oil, and is harmless in any condition of the system, yet powerful to cure. By druggists.

Best Whitewash.

For one barrel, take half a bushel of white lime, three pecks hydraulic cement, ten pounds of unburnt red, quarter pound lamp black. Slack the lime, add the lamp black with vinegar, mix well together, add the cement, and fill the barrel with water. Let it stand twelve hours, and it is ready for using. Stir frequently while applying. This is not white, but a light stone color. It is next to oil paint, and will last several years on buildings or fences.

In another column will be found the advertisement of D. F. Beatty. Any one wishing an organ will do well to correspond with his house at Washington, N. J., as all their work gives satisfaction.

It is with sorrow we record the death of Mr. George S. Shryock, the well-known manager of the Home Bitters Co. and also of the St. Louis Wine Co., both of which owe much of their present success to the fertile brain and active management of this gentleman. At the early age of forty-seven, right in the prime of life, death chose him for a victim. Though for many months, this dread spectre had haunted his footsteps, yet it was not until the morning of the 4th of July that it claimed him as its own; when, after a severe attack of Bright's disease, he passed into oblivion, where neither bodily pain nor business complications trouble move. In his death, St. Louis loses an honorable citizen, and a large circle of friends, one of its chief ornaments. Many a heart suffered a pang when the sad news of his death was first learned, and many an expression of sympathy, with the widow and fatherless child, found utterance, for he was a man who made friends and kept them. He was a man of sterling worth, impelled by high and conscientious motives, honorable in all his dealings, generous to his friends and charitable to his opponents; and withal, possessing in a marked degree, a keen insight into the ways of business. We grieve his loss as that of a friend, and the sympathy we have with his bereaved family in this most severe of all afflictions, is heartfelt.

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For one barrel, take half a bushel of white lime, three pecks hydraulic cement, ten pounds of unburnt red, quarter pound lamp black. Slack the lime, add the lamp black with vinegar, mix well together, add the cement, and fill the barrel with water. Let it stand twelve hours, and it is ready for using. Stir frequently while applying. This is not white, but a light stone color. It is next to oil paint, and will last several years on buildings or fences.

In another column will be found the advertisement of D. F. Beatty. Any one wishing an organ will do well to correspond with his house at Washington, N. J., as all their work gives satisfaction.

It is with sorrow we record the death of Mr. George S. Shryock, the well-known manager of the Home Bitters Co. and also of the St. Louis Wine Co., both of which owe much of their present success to the fertile brain and active management of this gentleman. At the early age of forty-seven, right in the prime of life, death chose him for a victim. Though for many months, this dread spectre had haunted his footsteps, yet it was not until the morning of the 4th of July that it claimed him as its own; when, after a severe attack of Bright's disease, he passed into oblivion, where neither bodily pain nor business complications trouble move. In his death, St. Louis loses an honorable citizen, and a large circle of friends, one of its chief ornaments. Many a heart suffered a pang when the sad news of his death was first learned, and many an expression of sympathy, with the widow and fatherless child, found utterance, for he was a man who made friends and kept them. He was a man of sterling worth, impelled by high and conscientious motives, honorable in all his dealings, generous to his friends and charitable to his opponents; and withal, possessing in a marked degree, a keen insight into the ways of business. We grieve his loss as that of a friend, and the sympathy we have with his bereaved family in this most severe of all afflictions, is heartfelt.

The Stock Breeder.

National Register of Norman Horses. This is the title of a standard work for American horsemen just being issued. James M. Hiatt, fine stock editor of the Chicago Drivers' Journal (a live stock paper of world-wide circulation, being now published both in Europe and America), has just completed the historic portion of the "American Register of Norman horses," a stud book which is being printed and bound at this office, and the first edition of which will be out in a short time.

We deem it no more than justice to say that Mr. Hiatt's part of this work is the most thorough, the most accurate, the most scholarly, and the most readable contribution that has ever been made to horse literature of the American continent. It abounds in translations and quotations from French and other European authorities, and presents a vast array of pertinent, important and interesting facts in relation to draught horses, hitherto unpublished in America. Its first half is chiefly given to a history of the horse kind in general, and embraces a highly instructive account of the several primeval breeds as they appeared in the wild state in different parts of Asia and Europe. Then follows a full and complete history of the Norman horse, in which that celebrated horse is traced back to the eighth century, and shown to have been formed for war purposes under the patronage of Charlemagne by crossing the three greatest of the domesticated original stocks, the gray, the bay, and the black. After giving the origin of the Norman horse, Mr. Hiatt follows him throughout his career as a charger during the middle ages down to his entrance upon the great field of modern industry, showing how, in the time of the Norman-French rule of England, he was bred by the Norman kings of that country on both sides of the British channel, and how in consequence of this extensive propagation throughout both Continental Europe and the British Islands, his name (Norman horse) ceased to be provincial, and became European.

Mr. Hiatt is the author of several other popular works, such as "The Political Manual," "The Voters' Text Book," &c. &c. The National Norman Horse Association have found in him the right man for the work he has just finished. He has in that work thoroughly vindicated the truth of history and produced a book that will in all coming time, be regarded as a standard by all readers of horse literature.—Bloomington (Ill.) Pantagraph.

The Pig Pen.

Mr. Daniel Myers, a farmer residing southwest of the city last over one hundred dollars worth of hogs last Saturday by being overcome by the excessive heat. A number of other farmers residing in that neighborhood also lost heavily. Since writing the above we learn that one farmer residing north of this city lost fourteen head of fat hogs the same day. They were overcome by the fearful heat.—Neb. City News.

It is claimed that an acre of ground containing good clover will pasture five head of hogs for four months. Now we believe that it would take pretty near all the corn that would grow on an acre of ground to keep five head of hogs in good condition for that period of time. If we are right there can be no doubt but what clover is the cheapest food for hogs in the summer, at any rate it is attended with no trouble to feed them, and besides, hogs pastured on clover are in a far better condition than if fed on corn, as they are better formed, healthier and eat better, and will fatten better when sent up for that purpose. There is a great difference, however, in breeds of hogs in regard to living on clover. Some are not near as fond of it as others, but Poland-China, Suffolk, Berkshire and several other breeds like it.

Let pigs of all ages have access to a mixture of ashes, salt and sulphur. Keep the pens and troughs clean. Let them have a dry, warm, well ventilated place to sleep in during the whole year. Keep the younger and weaker separate from the older and stronger. Feed according to what the pigs are designed for. Lameness is believed by many farmers to be a species of founder, caused by highly concentrated or oily food, such as corn-meal or milk fed in large quantities, and bleeding by cutting off the end of the tail, repeating the operation two or three times if necessary, will not fail to effect a cure. Hogs in the summer months are all the better for being permitted to run in clover or grass fields. It agrees with them to be turned out to pasture.

Blatchley Lindley of Prosperity, Pa. had sixty-nine head of sheep killed by lightning during a late storm.

Inflammation of the Lungs, and Pleura in the Horse.

Pneumonia is inflammation of the substance of the lungs, without involving the bronchial terminations or the pleura. But it is usual for more or less bronchitis to be associated with pneumonia, and, in many instances, inflammation of the pleura will co-exist with that of the lungs (pleuro-pneumonia).

The cause of pneumonia or its often associate, pleurisy, is cold, sudden changes of temperature, over-work, currents of cold air in badly constructed stables, and the condition that the lungs are left in after an attack of congestion. Or the lung or pleura may be so mechanically injured as to cause inflammation, and pneumonia is incidental to several forms of blood disease.

Symptoms.—In a moderate attack of pneumonia, it is perceptible enough that the breathing is not natural—the respiration is not labored. The pulse counts seventy-five or eighty beats per minute, and the temperature is four or five degrees above the natural standard. The febrile stage is preceded by a chill, which usually escapes observation. There is a soft cough; but on the other hand, if pneumonia is combined with pleurisy, the cough is painful, suppressed and wringing, and the respiration, which is labored from the commencement, has a jerking flank action. It may also be noticed that if pneumonia is associated with bronchitis, the respiration is more difficult than in pure pneumonia, but the cough is not painful, and the animal makes no effort to suppress it, as he does when there is pleural inflammation.

On placing the ear to the chest at the commencement of an attack of pneumonia, it will be observed that the respiratory sound is greatly increased, altering as the disease advances to a crepitant or crackling murmur; and later on, if the lung should become solidified, little or no sound will be detected by the ear. If this unfortunate sequel should take place, the respiratory effort is increased, and it is usual for it to occur, when the disease is on the decline and the animal out of danger, so far as life is concerned.

In the early stages of severe pleurisy, the horse evinces his suffering by pawing, lying down and getting up. Auscultation gives a friction sound. The horse will flinch from pressure on the ribs. The muscles covering will be felt to tremble beneath the palm, and as the patient makes an effort to save the sore sides, the respiration is mainly performed by the abdominal muscles. These distressing symptoms do not last long. The inflammation subsides, and effusion of water into the chest is the next stage. When this takes place, the horse appears almost recovered, and if the effusion is but moderate, with time and care the animal recovers. But too often this relief is but evanescent. The effusion goes on increasing. The respiration becomes labored in the extreme, and finally the chest is so filled with serum that there is no room left for the lungs to move in. In the horse, both sides of the chest are involved in this dropsy, although the inflammation may have been confined either to the right or the left half of the chest.

Treatment.—As regards bleeding, it is an evil that has now become almost extinct. In past generations its practice was death's most industrious helper. In pneumonia, it paralyzed the restorative efforts of nature, and in pleurisy it produced a condition of blood (anemia) most favorable to diffuse effusion through the debilitated vessels of the pleura.

For pneumonia, severe blistering is not as reputable a treatment as it was formerly, still moderate counter-irritation will be advantageous in most forms of chest disease. Make a paste of half a pound of Coleman's mustard, about as thick again as it is ordinarily prepared for table use, and apply it, not over the ribs, but on the front of the chest, extending from the middle of the windpipe to between the legs, and from shoulder to shoulder. If thought necessary, this may be rubbed off in twelve hours and a fresh application of mustard laid on. The brown mustard, used between cloths for the human subject, is useless for the horse; not having tenacity it falls off as quick as applied.

The only drug that is worthy of any confidence, either in pneumonia, pleurisy or pleuro-pneumonia, is iodide of potassium. The dose is two drachms twice a day, but if the pleura is affected, it is proper to give an additional dose. The drug is most conveniently given by mixing each dose with a teaspoonful of syrup, and then placing it on the tongue. It is a mistake to give aconite or other sedatives with the object of reducing the heart's action, for the increased action of that organ is an adaptation to the animal's condition and in keeping with the existing inflammation. Notwithstanding this, in the initial stage of acute pleurisy, it will be necessary to give a full dose of morphia (fifteen grains) to allay the animal's suffering.

In dropsy of the chest (hydrathorax), when the effusion is extensive, tapping is the last resource. The operation is not often successful, but it gives a chance where otherwise there would be none. The operation is performed by passing a trocar between the eighth and ninth ribs, rather low down. In diseases of the horse's chest, there is often constipation. This may be relieved to some extent by warm water injections, but oil aloes or other internal remedies are calculated to do harm. In some cases diarrhoea sets in. This is a favorable sign, and it is extremely dangerous to adopt any means for its suppression. Fresh water is to be kept all the time before the horse. He is to have anything that he will eat. And remember that a few handfuls of grain contains more of the elements that restore than a big mess of bran mash.

G. SCULLY.

How Can the Wound be Healed.

By the kick of another horse a filly was cut badly on the hip about eight inches below the tail root. I sewed the wound twice, but the stitches have broken out. After bathing with cold water, I have been putting on twice a day a lotion of one part of carbolic acid to twenty of water. The wound keeps clean. Have I been treating the case aright, or what would you suggest?—CLYDESDALE.—[It is a pity that the stitches were not put in sufficiently at first. In such cases they should have a wide, tolerably deep hold, should be of wire or cat-gut, and should be sufficiently near together to insure that no one stitch has to bear too much strain. In considerable wounds, liable to be dragged open by the animal's moving, the horse for several days should be kept tied up close to the head, to prevent his lying down. In extensive lacerations, such as badly broken knees, it may further be desirable to place the animal in slings, and thus relieve the injured parts from weight and strain. Where there has been little bruising, and where no irritating foreign matters have been left in contact with the abraded surface, even large wounds heal up by first intention, or with very little suppuration, and often leaving surprisingly little cicatrization or mark. In recent cases, where the parts are bruised, hot fomentations are applied to insure cleanliness and encephal pain and swelling. Where cleansing or removal of irritation are unnecessary, cold water is sometimes applied gently over the cut surfaces. An occasional carbolic dressing acts beneficially as an antiseptic. But once a wound is put up, the less it is meddled with the better. No external dressing can furnish the reparative materials naturally laid down to repair the breach.—North British Agriculturist.]

Horses' Legs.

It is a well-known fact that horses will work and remain sound for many years with legs apparently much out of order. Enlargements take place in the sheath of tendons after strain; also from blows, where the parts become lined with a thick coat of lymph; and sometimes the body of the bone itself is found thickened from a deposition of bony lamina over the original bone. When all this has been in progress we question the propriety of any active measures, unless, as generally the case, a feeling of soreness is exhibited after work by a shifting or favoring of the limb or limbs in the stall, or by a "feeling" manner of going on first being taken out of the stable. When the legs are really callous, little impression can be made upon them unless by active measures; but rest and proper attention are the best preservatives of these most essential members of the horse's frame, with the friendly auxiliaries of hot water, flannel bandages and freedom in a box-stall, after severe work, and good shoeing at all times. Provided no internal disease attacks the feet they will not only be sound and healthy, but in better form, from having been properly shod, than if they had not been shod at all.

Some hoofs, however, having a greater disposition to secrete horn than others, and thus called strong feet, should never remain more than three weeks without being subjected to the drawing knife of the blacksmith, and the shoes properly replaced. Neither should stopping with damp to be omitted, as moisture, not "wet" is beneficial to the health of the foot. Do what we may, however, horses that are required for work on hard roads or to "go the pace," will always be more or less subjected to diseased feet, quite unconnected with shoeing. The action of the hinder legs of horses reminds us of one useful hint to those who have to use their horses on long journeys. If we follow a well formed horse, with the free use of his limbs, on a road upon which his foot-steps are imprinted, we shall find the hinder foot overlaps the fore foot in the track, but falls behind it in the slow trot. Exclusive of relief to the muscles by change of action, then, it is safer to vary the pace from a walk to a slow trot on a journey, as causing less fatigue to the hock joint, by which curbs and spavins are frequently thrown out. Add to this, the slow trot is the safest pace a horse goes, because his step is shortest.—Ex.

Ranch and Range.

It is characteristic of the American people to "go it whole hog or none." Texas ranchmen are getting clear of their beef cattle at prices which make them happy, and at the present time there seems to be a much greater demand for stock cattle on the range than the offerings can possibly meet. Contracts are already being made for cattle to be delivered for the spring drive of '82. Ordinarily, it is thought the season is opening early when buyers are on the look-out for making contracts in October. Americans, as a rule, have the fashion of going into anything very strongly, when it is "booming" and severely letting it alone when the reaction comes, which seldom fails to follow either a sudden up or downward turn in the course of values. A great many think that when prices start upwards there is no limit to the advance, and they are the ones quick to load up at the high prices, no matter how high they go, and as soon as a downward turn in the values fairly sets in, they imagine that there is no "bottom" and are consequently the very first to break prices by their anxiety to sell out at almost any price. There is no business which pays a higher premium than the cattle trade. While there seems to be but little doubt that good Texas beef will command good figures throughout this season, there seems to be no good reason for the unusually high prices being paid for young stock, though the tenor of the reports from the range in nearly all sections, is to the effect that stock-ers are much scarcer than usual. Be that as it may, high priced stock cattle do not insure high prices for beef by any means; if such were the case, graziers would be able to completely control the trade.

If we were to give any advice on the subject it would be for stockmen on the

plains to expend less money in endeavoring to secure the largest number of cattle; their respective sections, and turn their attention more to quality. Buy fewer grazing cattle and more thoroughbred bulls, and there will be fewer wild fluctuations in market values, as the quality of the stock improves.

It is pretty generally thought that an advance of 50 per cent over last spring's prices will be paid for cattle to be delivered next spring. It is said that the supply of cattle in southwest Texas is much shorter than ever before, and buyers will have to look more to middle west Texas than heretofore. The Texas Live Stock Journal says: "The great prairies of the southwest, which a few years ago was overstocked with its millions of cattle, and eaten down, are now like a fresh range and are better for having some of its old long-horn friends to eat the grass. Parties who drove this year made money and had easy sales, but they cannot buy the same number of cattle in this country, with the money received."—Drovers' Journal.

Stock Notes.

The meaning of the word "soiling," as understood by cattle feeders, is the practice of confining animals to the stake or small lots, and feeding them on green clover, corn, grass, etc., cut as needed, and not allowing stock to graze on the ground where food grows.

At the sale of Jersey cattle at Springfield, Ill., June 29th, by Mr. A. C. Jennings of Urbana, Ohio, the leading purchasers were, O. J. Bailey, Peoria, Ill., five head, \$845; N. J. Jones, Normal, Ill., seven \$495; J. H. Cordell, Marshall, Mo., four \$455; Geo. Pickrell, Wheatfield, Ill., seven \$505; and D. F. S. Tripp, Peoria, three \$390. The 38 cows and heifers sold for \$3,405, an average of \$89.60. The three bulls sold for \$160, an average of \$53.33. Total amount received for the 41 head, \$3,565, an average of \$86.95.

Every farmer should see to it that no hay or fodder of any description is wasted. There is no old hay of last year left over, owing to its scarcity, and the unusual high price it commanded during the latter part of winter and spring. The dry weather through May this year will cause a light crop of hay again this season, and consequent high prices. There is a large area of land in the west that could not be plowed in time for corn, and most of it will be available for millet or Hungarian grass. All such ground should be used to furnish a supply of some fodder crop.

The London Live Stock Journal says: We are getting Short-horns now from America both for breeding and for eating. Who would have prophesied that, when the first Short-horn was landed on the shores of the west? Yet numerous agriculturists in this country would laugh at the suggestion of any one who would venture to hint that we would have draught horses from America some day to till our lands, as we have them now to drag our carriages and tramway cars. People of course say that the country is "done," but this is a mistake; it is the people who are done—not in the sense of "doing," but of decay. We have all the material, but we refuse to mould it into the proper shape.

It is said that half of the saline matter of the blood consists of common salt, and as this is partly dissolved every day through the skin and kidneys, the necessity of continued supplies of it to the healthy body is sufficiently obvious. The bile also contains sodium, one of the ingredients of salt—a special and indispensable constituent, and so do all the cartilages of the body. Stint the supply of salt and neither will the bile be able to properly assist digestion, nor the cartilages to be built up again as fast as they naturally waste. It is better to place salt where stock can have free access to it than to give it occasionally in small quantities. They will help themselves to what they need, if allowed to do so at pleasure; otherwise, when they become salt-hungry they may take more than is wholesome.

From this time on for about two or three months stock will require care in watering, as nearly all ponds dry up in hot weather.

In mating two individuals of the same breed, that parent is said to be prepotent over the other whose individual likeness and characteristics predominate in the young. In crossing distinct breeds, that breed is said to be prepotent in the cross whose likeness predominates in the mongrel offspring. In crossing two species, that species proves prepotent in the cross whose characters predominate in the hybrids produced. So apt is the tendency in those accustomed to the technical language of science, one of the most precise and definite of technical terms, and there is neither "mystification" nor mystery about it. In crossing the ass and the horse, the mules produced are invariably more ass-like than equine in character. That is what we mean when we say the ass is prepotent when crossed with the horse. Is there any "degree of mystification" about that? Certainly and most assuredly none.

Many think that choice calves cannot be well raised on skim milk, and therefore feed all new milk to them. But I think this is wasting the cream on such as are designed to grow up for dairy cows, and that they are all the better for this purpose when reared on the quality of milk which is the least fattening and gives the most muscle. Many a Short-horn heifer is injured for the dairy by being over-fed, and kept too fat from birth up to three years of age, which is the usual time for it to drop its first calf. As fed above, the calves occasionally scoured, and to stop this some astringent medicine had to be given in their food. But if a heaping tablespoonful of oil-meal, gradually increasing to a pint for each calf as it grew older, had been made into gruel and mixed daily with the skim milk, it would have prevented scouring, kept the bowels in good order, and made them relish their other food more heartily. Flax seed, boiled to a jelly, answers the same purpose, also if ground, mixed with oats, one fourth of the former to three-fourths of the latter, and then a quart or more according to the age of the calf, fed daily, is a good substitute for the oil-meal.

The Care of Harness.

A harness that has been upon a horse's back several hours in hot or rainy weather becomes wet; if not properly cleaned, the damage to the leather is irreparable. If, after being taken from the horse in this condition, it is hung up in a careless manner, traces and reins twisted into knots, and the saddle and bridle hung askew, the leather when dried retains the same shape given it while wet, and when forced to its original form, damage is done the stitching and the

leather. The first point to be observed is to keep the leather soft and pliable. This can only be done by keeping it well charged with oil and grease; water is a destroyer of these, but mud and the saline moisture from the animal are even more destructive. Mud, in drying, absorbs the grease and opens the pores of the leather, making it a prey to water, while the salty character of the perspiration from the animal injures the leather, staining and mottling it. It therefore follows that to preserve a harness, the straps should be washed and oiled whenever it has been moistened by sweat or soiled by mud. If a harness is thoroughly cleaned twice a year, and when unduly exposed treated as we have recommended, the leather will retain its softness and strength for many years.

Pare the Toes of the Colts.

It is not generally recognized how much harm comes to horses from the simple overgrowth of the toes; and yet, in the case of young and unshod horses especially, hardly anything is more destructive to the soundness and general utility. Judging by the number of colts turned out everywhere with the whole winter growth on their toes, there seems to be a surprising amount of ignorance in this matter; and it becomes the more necessary to draw special attention to the needs of paring.

A good average slope for the front of a healthy hoof is one forming an angle of forty-five degrees when it rests. But the average foot grows far more rapidly at the toes than at the heel, and wears off much more slowly. The heel, too, as it grows, turns inward, so that even with equal growth, it never projects as does the overgrown toe. As the foot increases in length, therefore, the effect is shown and felt especially at the toe, the front of the foot and of the pastern, recedes further from the vertical position, and approaches nearer the horizontal.

The extra strain consequent on the increased length and obliquity must be borne by the posterior and lateral ligaments of the fetlock and pasterns; and as these latter come from the sides of the pastern bones, the consequent injury determines inflammation and bony deposits on the sides of the pasterns. Similarly, the back sinews, which act as supports to these joints behind, become strained, thickened and shortened, inducing knuckling over at the knees, and general unsteadiness of the limbs.

In paring, remove the whole projecting lower border of the hoof wall down to the sole. The greatest danger is from the toes; but overgrown heels, curled in on the sole, imprison masses of hard, flaky horn, bruise the sole, and determine corns and other evil consequences. The process should be at summer when the colt is running at liberty in the fields that the effects of undue length are to be feared.

The Shepherd.

Edited by R. M. Bell, of Brighton, Massachusetts, to whom all matter relating to this department should be addressed.

The Kansas Sheep Show.

The Kansas Wool Growers and Sheep Breeders' Association will hold a sheep show September 12th to 17th, 1881, at Topeka, in connection with the State Fair Association. The premium list will aggregate \$1,000 to be paid by the State Fair Association. J. S. Coddington, president of the Sheep Breeders and Wool Growers' Association, is the superintendent of the sheep show.

Snots in Sheep.

A gentleman in Missouri, whose inquiry is mislaid, writes, "He bought some sheep with the snots, and that all his flock have it now. And asks is it curable, and is it contagious, and what would I do with them?" Sheep often show snottiness from colds. Grab in the head will cause snottiness. Colds neglected will result in catarrh. This, if let run, will become chronic or bronchial catarrh, with more or less fever and continual discharges from the nostrils of snotty matter. This I take it is what is referred to as snots.

If fed from the same troughs or in the same flock, any healthy sheep would soon show the same symptoms, as the matter would be taken into the system by every one of them and certainly inoculate them.

The treatment I should give would be dry, clean, well ventilated stables, to be used only when it rained. Give each one every other day a tablespoonful of pure pine tar for a week. Repeat this when symptoms are bad. Feed tar in trough on their salt continually. Feed bran and saltpetre once a week. As fast as fat enough for the butcher, sell them. Buy a Merino ram to breed on the flock to give more hardness to the offspring, and where a chance to sell secured, sell all the older ones. In using a Merino ram, you will not only get more valuable desirable wool and more of it, but a sheep more easily fatted, because more healthy, vigorous and active; in fact, Merino sheep have to be miserably badly kept to overlive the snots at all.

Per Cent. of Wool to Weight of Carcases.

The biggest mistake in breeding American sheep has been the Vermont idea of largest per cent. of wool to weight of carcass. Hence they are small in size and the disparaging comparisons as to their mutton qualities.

Western flockmasters, who have proposed to breed for size, have been accused by Vermont breeders of introducing French blood, and discounted severely and unjustly. But the time has come when Merino sheep must be bred nearer to the French idea. It can be done in this country without the objections attached to the French Merino of to-day. Their processes have been such as to make them tender-lack constitution. Our Merinos can be made to weigh 200 pounds as well as not, and lose not a whit in vigor and hardness—nor change the character of

Of Interest to Wool Growers.

LADD'S TOBACCO SHEEP DIP IS NOT POISONOUS. and may be used with perfect safety to the animal and those applying it. It is guaranteed an immediate cure for Seab and a prevention of infection by that terror to flock masters. GUARANTEED to more than repay the cost of application by increased growth of wool GUARANTEED to improve the texture of the fleece, instead of injury to it as is the result of the use of other compounds GUARANTEED to destroy vermin on the animal and prevent a return. GUARANTEED to be the most effective, cheapest and safe remedy ever offered to American wool-growers. We have the most undoubted testimonials corroborative of the above. **Certain Care for Seab and Vermin at any season of the year. No Flock-Master should be without it.** It costs no more than many unreliable preparations advertised for the purpose. Has proven a PERFECT SUCCESS WHEREVER USED. Its sale exceeds all other dips combined, because it is the best. The leading flock-masters from Dakota to the Gulf unite in pronouncing it the ONLY CERTAIN CURE FOR SEAB AND VERMIN to be obtained. Send address for our new pamphlet containing testimonials, latest methods for treatment of Seab and Vermin, plans for dipping, apparatus, etc. Published for free distribution. **LADD TOBACCO COMPANY, No. 21 N. Main, St. Louis, Mo.**

our wools. Careful selections and breeding, with better attention to thrift and liberal feeding, will accomplish all we desire. We must break away from old fogy standards and ideas of the fathers and begin anew.

Cheviot Sheep.

Intelligent progress in the art of agriculture is plainly marked by the increased attention given to the selection of crops and the choice of stock, in respect to their adaptability to different sections. In times past, when the average farmer determined upon introducing a certain breed of sheep or cattle upon his farm, he gave but little attention to the consideration of its adaptability to his soil, climate, or to the contour of his land. It was sufficient for him to know that his friend, or some recognized authority in the matter, perhaps one hundred or even five hundred miles away, had successfully introduced this particular breed of sheep or cattle into his farm economy. Now after many failures in sheep raising and stock breeding, occasioned by lack of consideration of many of the essentials of success, farmers recognize the importance of keeping only such livestock as is in most respects adapted to their locality and surrounding conditions.

In the matter of sheep husbandry, for instance, this industry has been urged upon our New England farmers as one of the most profitable branches of farm business, and properly managed this is true. Mutton sheep have been pronounced the most desirable breeds for the eastern farmer, yet judgment should be used in the selection. The mutton breeds of sheep are derived from very dissimilar localities. Thus the Lincoln, Leicester and some other heavy breeds are from the richest grazing sections of England. The Southdowns emanate from light, sandy pastures, that produce a short, sweet grass, to which feed, no doubt this famous mutton sheep is in a great measure indebted for the superior value of its mutton. The dryness of the pastures and the short herbage upon which the Southdown feeds, render it a most desirable breed for the New England farmer.

There is yet another breed of sheep well known and highly appreciated in Great Britain, yet of which but little has ever been said or written in this country, although from time to time there have been some limited importations. We refer to the Cheviots, that emanate from the Cheviot Hills, forming the boundary between England and Scotland, rising to an elevation of 2000 to 2700 feet above the level of the sea. The breed of sheep is eminently adapted to New England agriculture. The country about the Cheviot Hills is subject to winters fully as severe as those which prevail in New England.

Unlike the mountain sheep of either Scotland or Wales, the Cheviots are hornless, and have white faces and legs. They are remarkable for hardiness, and are well adapted to cold regions. Very different from sheep generally raised in mountainous districts, the Cheviots are of very docile habits. Their mutton is only excelled by that of the Southdown. In the western counties of England, particularly Northumberland, they are great favorites, as also among the lower range of the hills in Scotland, and in the southern sections of that country.

Pure bred Cheviots dress from fifty to sixty lbs. As is the rule with all mountain sheep, the hind-quarters are far heavier than the fore quarters. Crosses with the Leicesters have produced as evenly formed sheep as can be found in any section. The Cheviot shears a fleece of about four pounds of combing wool, very light and white. It receives but little shelter in winter, and is frequently fed with indifferent hay. In the fall of the year these sheep are often brought from the ranges among the tops of the hills to lower ranges of pastures and meadows in the valleys, where they fatten easily. It is no uncommon occurrence to fatten them in the winter on turnips and oat straw, with a little hay. With plenty of feed, they make excellent mothers frequently bearing twin lambs.

Cheviots can be kept in larger flocks than any other breed of long woolled sheep, not unfrequently being found among the native hills in flocks numbering 400 and 500, with sometimes a flock as large as 800, under the care of one shepherd and his dog. Cheviot sheep would require more than usual care so far as vicious dogs are concerned, since they are so quiet and docile, so unlike either our Merinos or our mountain sheep, that they would fall an easy prey to the attacks of curs. It is to be hoped, however, that the days of dogs worrying sheep are about over in this section of the country. Public interest must eventually take sides with the sheep in this contest as against the worthless cur. The hunters and sportsmen of England pass through the fields and over the moors where these sheep are grazing, with their packs of hounds, yet never does any of the latter raise his head to look at a sheep; if he did it would be his last day's hunt. A properly trained dog, regardless of breed, will not injure a sheep.

Sheep Notes.

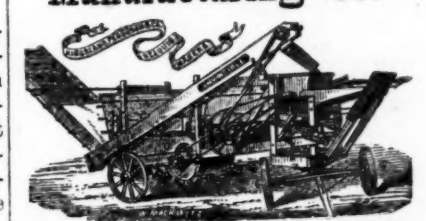
Panhandle wools are held for forty cents by growers.

Wool buyers think wool growers are getting awful sharp. Well, it is time they had learned something.

One Illinois wool buyer last year made \$18,000 in handling wool for three months. That was more cash than the raisers of that wool got.

The Merino flock of Samuel Archer, Esq., Kearney, Mo., last year, 1880, was graded and scored by Wm. Whitman of the Arlington Mills, Boston, Mass., with the following results: The combing delaine shrank in scouring 60 to 100 per cent., the clothing wool shrank 64 per cent. The wool fetched 30 cents

Kingsland & Ferguson Manufacturing Co.



THRESHERS

THIS IS A VIBRATING MACHINE of the newest and most compact style, adapted to both

STEAM AND HORSE-POWER

Combining all late improvements, it stands at the head of the perfect grain-savers in the market. FRACTION AND PLAIN ENGINES, SEND FOR CIRCULARS.

Kingsland & Ferguson Mfg. Co., St. Louis.

per pound in the grease, and the manufacturer said it was worth 80 to 85 cents per pound scoured.—Missouri Immigrant.

Eastern wool buyers are on the jump for wool at last. Western wool buyers are very quiet, though looking sharp for good lots that they can see a new dollar in.

O. B. Kyper sheared 120 sheep for J. O. Hicks of Pennsylvania, in thirty-five hours. It was considered remarkably quick time. They must have been "bad ones."

Kansas sheepmen are wide-awake to everything connected with their interests. Nor do they mean to have scabby sheep on ranges, nor even go along the public roads.

R. M. Bell & Son, successors of J. Bell Son, Brighton, Ill., sheared the following from their ram flock this year: Their four-year-old stock ram Santa Anna, 31-2 pounds; last year, 27 pounds. No. 99, two years, 25 1-2 pounds; last year, 18 pounds. No. 37, two years, 25 pounds; last year, 14 pounds. Little Queer, 21 pounds; last year, ten months old, 10 pounds. No. 153, two years old, 24 1-2 pounds; last year, 17 pounds. Yearling rams: No. 416, 17 pounds; No. 418, 15 1-2 lbs.; No. 419, 13 1-2 lbs.; No. 419, 13 lbs.; No. 423, 15 1-2 lbs.; No. 411, 13 lbs.; No. 407, 13 lbs.; No. 415, 12 1-2 lbs.; No. 404, 12 1-2 lbs.; No. 405, 12 lbs.; No. 408, 12 lbs.; No. 410, 14 1-2 lbs.; No. 402, 12 1-2 lbs.; No. 400, 19 lbs.; No. 413, 16 1-2 lbs.; No. 422, 16 lbs. None of the yearlings were thirteen months old, and the older rams ran from ten to fifteen days over a year's growth of fleece.

Small flocks of sheep can be kept on the farm with advantage. The meat is healthful and nutritious and can be grown more cheaply than beef, while it ought to be used more largely by farmers, who now rely on pork as the standard meat for the table. Sheep raising is not so exhausting to the soil as grain raising and on land much worn will be found one of the means of renewing such lands.

Official returns show how vast are the flocks of sheep owned in the Australian colonies; The New Zealand and Australian Land Company owns 300,000 sheep; Mr. Robert Campbell, 386,000; Mr. George Henry Moore, 90,000; Messrs. Dalgetty & Co., 238,000; Sir Dillon Bell, 82,000; the Hon. William Robinson, 68,000; Sir Cramer Wilson, 40,000; Mr. Kitchen, 80,000; and Mr. Allan McLean, 500,000.

Grubs in the head of sheep are believed to be caused by the golly, which deposits its eggs in the nostrils of the sheep during the summer and autumn. Although they cause much pain they are not usually fatal. To prevent them, apply tar to the noses of the sheep, occasionally during July and August, or smear the feeding troughs with tar. To cure the sheep when the grubs are hatched, blow tobacco smoke up the nostrils or syringe the nose with a decoction of tobacco.

Lambs ought to be castrated before they are three weeks old, because the dangers attending the operation are proportionally less the younger the animals are. No application is necessary, except when the operation is done during fly time, when a coat of tar may be applied to the scrotum externally. But the operation ought not to be done later than May. It should be done during steady, mild and hot weather. At night, and on chilly and wet days, the animal ought to be housed during the first week or ten days after the operation.

One of my half bred ewes, three years old, dropped twin lambs in the beginning of April, and has nursed them to the present time. About eleven weeks later she dropped a single lamb. On both occasions the lambs were fully developed, perfectly healthy, and are all living. The ewe is in very good condition, notwithstanding her efforts. She has turned off the twins to "do for themselves," and is suckling the latest arrival. I shall have pleasure in giving any further information if necessary.—Thirst for Knowledge. Such births are not uncommon, especially in animals which produce several young at a time. Occasionally they result from two distinct conceptions. This is probable in the case of your ewe, judging from the long period of eleven weeks which elapsed between the first and second births. In the case of other, their distinctive parentage is sometimes very notable. Instances have occurred of the first lambs taking after the whitest ram first placed with the flock; whilst the latter arrivals distinctly follow the Down, which has been introduced later in the season. Many of these peculiar cases are, however, explained by one or more of the fetuses, though begotten at the same time, being arrested in their development. When the first birth occurs the feeblest blighted fetus remains in the placental folds. With more room and nourishment they grow, and in some days or weeks labor pains again occur, and they are expelled.—North British Agriculturist.

The Home Circle.

EVERY YEAR.

BY ALBERT PIKE.

The spring has less of brightness
Every year;
And the snow a ghastlier whiteness
Every year;
Nor do summer flowers quicken,
Nor autumn fruits thicken,
As they once did—for they sicken
Every year.
It is growing darker, colder,
Every year;
As the heart and soul grow older
Every year;
I care not for dancing,
Or for eyes with passion glancing,
Love is less and less entrancing
Every year.
Of the loves and sorrows blended,
Every year;
Of the charms of friendship ended,
Every year;
Of the ties that still might bind me,
Until Time to Death resign me,
My infirmities remind me,
Every year.
Ah! how sad to look before us,
Every year;
While the cloud grows darker o'er us,
Every year;
When the blossoms are faded,
That to bloom, we might have aided,
And immortal garlands braided,
Every year.
To the past go more dead faces,
Every year;
As the loved leave vacant places,
Every year;
Everywhere the sad eyes meet us,
In the coming dusk they greet us,
And to come to them treat us,
Every year.
"You are growing old," they tell us
Every year;
"You are more alone," they tell us
Every year;
"You can win no new affection,
You have only recollection,
Deeper sorrow and deeper dejection
Every year."
Yes! the shores of life are shifting
Every year;
And we are seaward drifting
Every year;
Old places changing fret us,
The living more forget us,
There are fewer to regret us
Every year.
But the true life draws nigher
Every year;
And its morning star climbs higher
Every year;
Earth's hold on us grows slighter,
And the heavy burden lighter,
And the dawn immortal brighter
Every year.

Letter from Miss Ted.

Visitor, I am sorry that I cannot answer your questions about Homer's works. I read the Odyssey (Pope's translation) during recreation hours while at school. My reading was, therefore, very irregular and subject to constant interruption. Some parts of the Odyssey were rather hard reading, owing, I think, to the translator. Of the Iliad I have read but little, or rather, have had a portion of it read to me. The parts I heard were descriptions of warfare—siege of Troy and death of Hector. If anything was said of the Greek laws, I do not remember it. I think that Bon Ami's letter will have the effect of creating a Homeric revival.

It is becoming pretty evident that the most philanthropic of critics cannot criticize without being misunderstood. I believe that criticism is capable of accomplishing great good, but it is a province so easily abused, that only a master hand may venture on it successfully. For my part, I consider the critic a hardly used person. Every one is prejudiced against him; he is suspected of mean motives, he is supposed to be crabbed, he is not credited with the most perfect honesty, he is regarded as the epitome of all that is most malicious in human nature. The critic is but a sorry victor when he exposes mistakes of the criticized. There are some rare natures who will proclaim the truth and maintain it though the heavens should fall, but the average critic is sensitive in some degree, and is capable of having his views modified by his victim's humor. The critics of a department like the Home Circle must be persons possessed of considerable hardihood.

Daisy Dell, have you read Shelley's poems, and do you like them? I always pity Shelley, even when I felt that Byron deserved the utmost censure. I used to admire Byron, but I have not read any of his poetry for a long time. I did not find any daisies on the Eureka hillsides, but saw a great many sensitive plants—the only fragrant ones I ever saw. This calls to mind Shelley's "Sensitive Plant," which is one of the few poems about flowers that seem to me really beautiful.

It is weak to lament, but I must express my sorrow that we have lost so many of our old members. Occident Lignum, the author of the biography of Johnson, is greatly missed. Perhaps he has only changed his name. I must acknowledge that I consider this a bad precedent. The style of many of our contributors is not so peculiar to themselves that it can be readily recognized. We should like to know whether Lloyd Guyot is expressing Ixion's opinions? Don Juan was right not to change his title because his views met with opposition. To change one's name, is to acknowledge that one is at fault, or, at least, to open the way for disagreeable conjecture.

I think Don Juan's method of teaching the Circle is somewhat questionable. If our lesson is worth teaching at all, it is worth teaching without any trick to gain attention. If our reform is to be successful only because it is unusual, it cannot be the best kind of reformation.

If Don Juan's critics affected an erudite style of writing, Don Juan himself

affected an uncouth manner of expression; and I think most people will agree that over-refinement is better than vulgarity.

"Egotism" is not a subject that the majority of writers can do justice.

Little Dick, Violet Shaw, Gillie Lee, Lily of the Valley and all our writers, please come often.

Little Dick, I have a harrowing doubt as to your size. If you are not little, but have assumed your name for the purpose of imposing on us I never can forgive you. It is simply outrageous for a great nuisance of a man to pretend to be a nice little boy.

In my last letter the printer says: "The spirit of democratic institutions is a life-long process." It is humiliating to confess that I don't know what he means. I am thankful to have my opinions benefitted by the printer's correction, but I think there is a trifle too much temerity in changing the title of an author's poem.

I don't believe Burns ever required his muse to sing the song of the dairy.

Myra C., why do you not visit the Circle again? Perhaps you think that "he that writes, or makes a feast, more certainly invites his judges than his friends?" Do not fear our critics. They are all tender-hearted, and hide a fund of winsome kindness behind their most implacable sarcasms. Miss Ted.

Letter from Nobody Cares.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN: Is the Home Circle like an omnibus—always room for one more—or is the waste-basket a better substitute? Am sure one or the other will give me a reception. I have heard of the Home Circle for several years, but till lately have been unacquainted with its members. My father has been a subscriber about a year, I suppose, but being absent from home ten months, I had not the pleasure of reading the productions of your worthy members. Since my return I have been reading the late papers; also some of the back numbers.

In the Home Circle I find letters that are interesting, instructive and amusing. I have almost fallen in love with some of its contributors, and would like a private chat with them before presenting myself at the judgment seat of your amiable editor. The thought of being compared with experienced writers, makes me feel rather insignificant; but I trust you will judge with lenity, as each of you have stood in my shoes. Oh, I do not mean your tiny feet have been in my great clodhopper's shoes, but you had a beginning to your literary career!

Well, at the worst, I can't but fail; and if I do the world will be none the wiser. Col. Colman won't tell. When we first attempt a thing, we know not just how or where to begin; and I believe the first stroke is half the battle. We often hear persons say, "I don't mind doing so and so, after I get started." So the "bug-bear" of making the first stroke has been the ruin of many a glorious project. Individuals, though they know delays are dangerous, often hesitate to act. This defect in man is well illustrated by Shakespeare when he says:

"Thus enterprises of great pith and moment,
With this regard their currents turn awry
And lose the name of action."

To be sure, look before you leap; but don't be forever humming and hawing, and thus cultivate an undecided disposition. In the great field of action, every attempt will not necessarily be a successful one. This is often a comforting thought, and helps us to meet failures and disappointments. It also brings before us the good old motto, "try, try again," urging us to strive for a higher point of eminence. So if this finds a place in the basket, you will doubtless hear from me again.

Mr. Editor, I have searched in vain for information in regard to the conditions, manner and form you wish your contributors to send in their productions. Thanks for a word of enlightenment.

I wish now to ask a favor of Don Juan, i. e., for him to please give us his views on the use (and, I think, he said abuse) of slang at his earliest convenience. Would like to say a few words to each of you personally; but till I see how this fares, enough for

Nobody Cares.

Letter from a Hat.

COL. COLMAN: With your kind permission I wish to introduce myself into your Home Circle, and while doffing my hat to its various members, and begging their pardon for this intrusion into their select company, I will pay my especial regards to Lily of the Valley. What is there in a name? Much every way, sometimes. And to the mind's eye, this fair Lily is present this scorching, withering July day.

I would say that I am much interested in the Spoopendykes, and regard that recent fishing excursion a nice affair, and just such as might have been expected of the Spoopendyke family. Mrs. Spoopendyke is a lady after my heart. I admire much her meekness and forbearance under the gentlemanly treatment of her "leige lord," and would ask the Lily if she would imitate her under similar circumstances, if I were not afraid of arousing her temper and causing her to run the risk of having the finishing touch given to the color of her hair in a fruitless search after me, in "away down south in Dixie," as I bloom and flourish in the midst of the cotton fields of the distant south land. I hope to be excused for spending time in thought of the Lily, as doubtless she can survive independent of my admiration. But if circumstances were a little different, I should much desire a more intimate acquaintance, as I pass around the room in a fruitless search for my hat. Who of you have got it?

I must be excused for extending the right hand of fellowship to Gertrude on the dancing question, and to Black-Eyed Vallie on the "evil, filthy habit" of using tobacco. But here is my hat

at last, hid away under the table—and look! full of tobacco juice, appropriated as a spittoon. Who is so filthy in this Circle? I am sure it was not St. Paul. But, ah! there is that Clodhopper, who seems to think that everything is going to the well, it is unnecessary to say, perhaps he is doing what he can to incline things in that direction. Maybe he was taking a review of the armies of the Christian world, and should be excused for overlooking such a little thing as a

Letter from Timothy.

Please admit a convalescent. About the tenth of last March three of my worthy friends, the writings of whom I greatly admire, each threw a bomb-shell, all of which exploded near this little "tenement of mine," and like the trump that Marion dealt to the Tory, came near settling me forever. On picking myself up, I found that life was not extinct. I sent for a physician and repaired to my house, and "was resting very quietly on a lounge when the doctor arrived. He walked in, seated himself beside me, and began, of course, as all sensible physicians would, to explore the regions of my pulse, which he found to be below zero. The doctor spoke lowly to a friend sitting near by, and pronounced me "cold in death." That frightened me a little, and I unconsciously flopped one of my ears a little after the fashion in which a mule flops his on a hot day in order to fan himself. The doctor perceiving this, went hurriedly to work to raise the dead, and no doubt recovery thus far is greatly due to the petitions offered up at the throne of mercy by those would-be assassins for my safety, after maturely considering the reproach that would be brought upon them, should the intention of those missiles at the time sent out be fully executed.

With delight, and without troubling Miss Nina for her blue dyed spectacles, I read the admonition given by Miss Nina to her lady friends to stand up, and be and do for themselves, individually and collectively; and I said to myself, "surely a mighty reformer is here among us, a great change will be wrought, and when woman becomes what she pretends, then, and not till then, will she be worthy the hand of a Mr. Spooner or a Mr. Dyke." Keep quiet Miss Nina for I don't growl about small matters. If you have obtained the types, you might erect your printing press at any time or place, as I presume you are as well fitted to play the part of King of Hades as any of my sex whom I could suggest. You are wrong in believing Timothy to be no other than your old friend Tug, who sought to pay you off for your cool treatment. Tug is a Christian man, and always returns good for evil. He is largely engaged in the sordid business, and will visit you about Christmas with a bountiful supply of "tally on stick."

Miss Daisy Dell, I can't help what you believe in regard to my state, whether I am married or single; but will assure you, if I come to the "frolic," to dress before I arrive. I don't see the propriety in taking a wig with me, as I am not bald. I may need one the next day, for I am sure all the ladies present will want a lock of my hair, and to be walking round without hair, I would look worse than his majesty the d—! I guess we will do without supper, as I belong neither to Miss Ted nor Miss Nona, the bask will not be broken. Miss Daisy, suffer no uneasiness, because your heart and hand are mortgaged to another. As it is the mortgage may soon be closed and you made happy, while were they mortgaged to me, I might consider it not worth closing. When you write me that love letter, don't read it too often, because the sweetness might thereby be destroyed; but let it come, rich and greasy like a fritter.

Miss Gillie Lee, are you a Bible reader? Do you admire the letters of Paul to I, Timothy, and believe that they should be governed by them? If so, why do you ask me so many questions when Paul says, "a woman shall question none other than her husband?" As for changing my opinions, that I will never do, for fools change theirs, while wise men never do.

Lloyd Guyot, I receive members into bachelordom at the age of twenty-one. Jonesburg, Mo. TIMOTHY.

Letter from Bon Ami.

DEAR HOME CIRCLE: Interest has been well kept up in our department, notwithstanding the very warm weather. The letters of our members have been a source of much amusement to me. I have enjoyed them as much as if they had all been addressed to me. No doubt the tendency of some of us to debate has contributed a great deal towards keeping up interest in the Circle. I have been thinking for some time that this would be a good question for us to discuss: "Resolved, that self-interest is the motive of all human action." It is supposed that the person is sane and that his action, whatever it may be, is voluntary. To say that every act, whether good or bad, is directly or remotely connected with self, is to say a great deal—is to say something that directly opposes the generally received idea; yet I believe the proposition is true, but I do not wish to lead in the debate.

Idyll, I have found nothing to relieve my deafness. I have tried the audiophone, the artificial ear drums and medicines, but nothing I have tried does the least good. I have about come to the conclusion that deafness cannot be cured. Partial deafness is very disagreeable. One hates to speak of his deafness to every one he meets, and it is very embarrassing to be spoken to and not understand. There are few who are exempt from all the evils to

which flesh is heir, and I suppose if deafness did not fall to our lot, some other evil would take its place.

Nina, you do not visit us often enough of late. I am sure all of us would be pleased to see you present every week. I have not sent my article on Homer to any of the evolutionists, but I have some hopes that they will see it, as it has been copied by some of the country newspapers. I was very much pleased at this, for it shows that these editors consider me a competent historian. A week or two ago I commenced an article on "Plato and his Philosophy." I got his history all right, but when I came to consider his philosophy, I found that his definition of man—"man is a bird without feathers"—is about the only philosophical assertion of his, which succeeding ages have thought worth preserving. There are a few persons at the present day who are even so mean as to deny the accuracy of this definition, affirming that any boy of ten could have given a better one. But, if we take into consideration the fact that Plato had never seen a man, we must, if we are impartial, admit that his was a mighty good definition. But I give Plato credit for several better things. He said that the ladies of Athens were more feeble than those of Sparta, on account of tight-lacing. He also said that they had destroyed their original beauty by the use of cosmetics. "Our ladies," said Plato, "have got to using so many pins about their dresses, that it is absolutely dangerous for a young fellow to hug his sweetheart."

Some time ago Lloyd Guyot said that he greatly embarrassed a young physician by asking him if he were a follower of Esculapius. Our friend talked as though he thought it impossible for a man to be a physician, unless he knew something about Esculapius. Bah! What better off would a man be if he knew all about that old ape, and his system? Esculapius authority! I think one had better study that which would be of some use to him. A man who is well versed in the history of Esculapius will do very well to talk with, but when we are sick, we want a physician that knows something about diseases. I recently happened that two men, who were teaching together, quarreled and broke up their school on account of the word franchise. One man pronounced it one way, and the other pronounced it another way. As they could not agree as to how it should be pronounced, although they could have decided the point in a minute by referring to a dictionary, they agreed to quit teaching. There ought to be a law that would confine such idiots as these two teachers in the insane asylum. But such is human nature. Men are enthusiastic on little points while they ignore fundamental principles. There must be something radically wrong in our educational system, or else this whim of nature would be greatly modified.

Glen, I hope you will continue to think of me as you now do. But as I write independently, I can scarcely hope that my letters will always please you. Mutate all our efforts to get you with us again seem to be in vain. Can't you write us a short letter occasionally?

Messrs. Enon and Paulus, as soon as I get to be an expert at glass ball shooting, I want to come up and shoot with the Clarksville Club.

Daisy Dell, Lily of the Valley, Vamue, Western Echo, Avis, Fifty-Seven, Critic, Alberta, do not let the warm days keep you from writing.

BON AMI.

Letter from Lackland.

DEAR RURAL, where are all our flowers this hot weather? Like Sal Baxter I want to talk to them occasionally. There continues to be so much room in the Circle's parlors that one would think they had been criticised out. By the way, has it ever occurred to you to notice the great resemblance there is between an overcharged criticism and a trusty, old fowling piece we've heard of in the same condition? The birds at both ends of either are sure to get hurt. But I must return and chat with the flowers.

Herna, are you scared away because you mislaid my name? Come back, please! Mr. typ made you do it. I think, for though he has been my constant friend, I have observed that he sometimes puts his where it oughtn't to be, and suppose he might do the same with a j.

Lillie do you live in Platte county? That was a kind talk you made in my behalf on our Nina rose. Do not stay away, I may need you again.

Gillie, the lady in the picture seems to be very well satisfied with her personal appearance. It is possible her friends and the looking glass have told her how pretty she is. I would say that to those who know her, Daisy Dell looks a trifle taller than most young ladies and somewhat more slender of form. And to these, and the dark brown hair and blue eyes, other fitting and not irregular features and an open, serene sunny expression of countenance, and no one will think or care whether our friend is "a plain country girl" or not. Let's ask Little Dixie about it.

Alberta, it was unkind of you to decline my invitation after it was impossible to accept it. Could you not give us a better idea of your whereabouts? I want you, too, for a friend. Friends, I must insist that it was not fair for us to get up from the bountiful feast of which we all partook, with a mere "farewell bill-of-fare" in our mouths. At least our thanks are due to Miss Nina.

Miss Baxter seems to have caught the trick of smiling at folks from the flowers. Will she not permit us to name her our Helianthus?

Mr. Garland, certainly, for one of yours. Thanks for the continued interest you take in me.

LACKLAND.
Clarksville, Pike County Mo., box 1.
P. S. Can somebody tell us whether the locusts eat anything while here, and what?

FOR MINNIE F'S ALBUM.

BY NINA.

The dew-drop trembling on the rose,
Will fall ere fades the day—
And velvet bloom will soon disclose,
The touch of swift decay.
But friendship, like a flower that blooms
With ever brightening hue,
The darkest path of life illumines,
With gems more bright than dew,
So let me cherish friendship's flame,
That it may ne'er depart,
And here, dear friend, inscribe your name,
Engraven on my heart.

Letter from Emeline.

COL. COLMAN: Please admit a new comer to the Home Circle, and I will take my place among "the girls." I cannot say with Daisy Dell I am a rustic lassie, but I should like very much to be, having never lived upon a farm. I live in a town of about seven or eight hundred inhabitants.

I have never noticed any recipes in the Home Circle, but as I am anxious to get the recipe for corn-starch pie, I am going to ask one of the girls to please give me it—and if they wish, I will send them the recipe for angel cake.

I do not agree with Bon Ami when he says, "Better read bad reading than none at all." I say better read none at all than to read bad reading. But I must not criticise as I am only a new comer.

Girls, don't you suppose if we go off into some corner, so as not to disturb the older members, we might talk fashions a little bit. I will tell you a pretty way to make an apron: Get a large bandanna handkerchief, cut the border off the top, and cut the corners of this off for pockets. Put four darts in the apron; then cut the remainder of that border half in two lengthwise, sew it together and line it for the belt; then trim the pockets and edge of apron with white lace (I used three yards, four-cent edging), and it is as pretty as can be.

DELTA, OHIO. EMELINE.

Learn to be Short.

Long visits, long stories, long exhortations, long prayers and long editorials, seldom profit those who have to do with them. Life is short. Time is short. Moments are precious. Learn to condense, abridge and intensify. We can endure many an ache and ill if it is soon over, while even pleasure grows insipid and pain unendurable, if they are protracted beyond the limits of reason and convenience. Learn to be short. Lop off branches; stick to the main facts in your case. If you speak, tell your message and hold your peace; boil down two words into one, and three into two. Always learn to be short. Some men use words as rifle men do bullets. They say but little. The few words go right to the mark. They tell you talk, and guide your face and eyes on and on, till what you say can be answered in a word or two, and then they launch out a sentence or two, pierce the matter to the quick and are done. Your conversation falls into their minds as a stream into a deep chasm, and is lost from sight by its depth and darkness. They will sometimes surprise you with a few words that go to the mark like a gunshot, and then they are silent again, as if they were reloading. Such men are safe counselors and true friends, when they profess to be such. To them the truth is more valuable than gold, while pretension is too gaudy to deceive them. Words without point to them are like titles without merit—only betraying the weakness of the blind dupes who are ever used to forward other men's schemes.

Fever and Ague.

Formerly, all medical writers agreed that fever and ague is a disease peculiar to marshy districts, and depending on some subtle poison, called "miasm." No one has ever been able to detect this poison, and its existence is only known by its effect on the system. But during the past few years, fever and ague has prevailed, where it was supposed that no miasm could exist.

Quinine was once thought to be a specific for all malarial diseases; but we often see persons suffering from fever and ague in spite of quinine, which they take in large doses daily. Thus two theories in reference to the disease, have been proved utterly unreliable. Now there are but few spots in this country where the inhabitants are entirely exempt from malarial diseases; and it seems more than probable that the causes exist more frequently in the individual, his habits and immediate surroundings, than in any poisonous emanations that come to the surface at a greater distance. They are improper food, exposure to dampness, and bad ventilation of living and sleeping rooms. These things depress and debilitate the system and poison the blood.

The waste particles of the body are not carried off as fast as they accumulate, and thus the circulation becomes sluggish and the liver torpid and inactive. The wonder is not that this state of things should exist, under these circumstances, but that nature should tolerate them and that recovery should be possible. There may be cases of fever and ague depending on other diseases; but all ordinary cases may be completely cured in a week by proper treatment; relieve the liver of the fearful load under which it is laboring and suffering, and the disease at once ceases. Ten to twenty grains of calomel, then on going to bed, is our remedy. In a practice of twenty years we have never known this plan to fail. One case in twenty may require a second dose in about a week, but there will be no return of the disease, unless the same causes that produced it are again allowed to act. Fever and ague is liable to favor the development of other diseases, and should therefore be cured as promptly as possible; and when cured the greatest care should be observed to avoid contracting it again; therefore avoid over-fatigue, improper food, damp and impure air; wear flannels next to the skin, and keep the feet dry and warm, and the bowels regular.—Hall's Journal of Health.

The Power of Eloquence.

I heard the great speech of William Pickney on the Missouri question in the United States Senate in 1820. I sat near by and listened to that of Mr. Clay upon the same subject in the House of Representatives. They were, perhaps, the greatest of their lives, and were most powerful in their influence upon the action of Congress. The speech of Mr. Pickney was perhaps the most finished and masterly piece of oratory ever listened to on this continent. That of Mr. Clay was grandly eloquent. Mr. Pickney's, though admitted to be the most convincing, stirred no feeling as did the burning words of Mr. Clay. A few weeks after I was in the court-room in Columbia, South Carolina, and heard George McDuffee in a celebrated criminal trial, and this was the only speech I ever listened to that I thought approached the eloquence that I have often heard from Prentiss.

As an evidence of Prentiss' great eloquence, I may be allowed the narration of an incident in the life of this remarkable man. In 1844, in company with the late John Bell, of Tennessee, Wm. C. Dawson, and Chief Justice Lumpkin, of Georgia, I met at a dinner table in Newark N. J., a distinguished gentleman, who shall be nameless, who was far advanced in years. During the dinner a lady present said to me: "I believe you are acquainted with the great southern orator, Mr. Prentiss?" He answered in the affirmative, she added: "I was tempted once in this city to go and hear him make a political speech, and I consider it an era in my life."

"Did you ever hear him, Judge Lumpkin?" asked the aged gentleman above alluded to.

"I never did," was the Judge's reply.

"Then sir," continued this gentleman, "you should seek an opportunity to do so, for certainly he is the great master of modern eloquence. I had heard and read much in the current news of the day in relation to his ability, and could scarcely believe that heaven had vouchsafed such powers to any man as were ascribed to him. I was disconcerted enough to laugh at my lady friend there, who asserted that he held her spell-bound for three hours. I was incredulous as to the existence of any human power being such as to enchain my attention for so long a time, and I was tempted to go for once to a political meeting to hear this man from the woods of the west. I found an immense concourse present. There were at least one thousand ladies seated all around the rostrum in the open air, just where you have been speaking to-day. I wished to be near the speaker, and pushed my way, with the privilege of age, through the throng, until, reaching a convenient distance, I found standing room. It was just as Mr. Prentiss rose to speak. I took out my watch to time him. The cheering was so vociferous, that I failed to hear his opening remarks, and started to replace my watch in my pocket. I was arrested by a most startling thrill of words, and stopped to listen. And I did listen, with an attention and interest I had never given to an orator before. So intense was my interest that every faculty, every feeling, was concentrated upon the man and the wonderful flow of burning words. It seemed the incarnation of eloquence. There was a witchery in his words, clothed in tones so melodious that they not only enraptured, but stabbed the heart, and I lost the consciousness of passing time, and when he closed I found my hands holding my watch to replace it. I looked at it, and found that I had been listening for more than three hours, and, though over seventy years of age, I felt no fatigue. A friend, a clergyman, who had followed me into the crowd, stood pale and agitated, looking at the man after he was seated. As I approached him he exclaimed: "Will you ever again doubt that God inspires man?"—Philadelphia Times.

MAN.

The average weight of an adult man is 140 pounds 6 ounces.
The average weight of a skeleton is about 14 pounds.
Number of bones, 240.
The skeleton measures one inch less than the height of the living man.
The average weight of the brain of a man is 3 pounds; of a woman, 2 pounds 11 ounces.
The brain of a man exceeds twice that of any other animal.
The average height of an Englishman is 5 feet 9 inches; of a Frenchman, 5 feet 4 inches; and of a Belgian, 5 feet 6 inches.
The average weight of an Englishman is 150 pounds; of a Frenchman, 136 pounds; and a Belgian, 140 pounds.
The average number of teeth is 32.
A man breathes about 20 times in a minute, or upward of seven hogheads in a day.
A man gives off 4.08 per cent. carbonic gas of the air he respires; respires 10.666 cubic feet of carbonic acid gas in 24 hours; consumes 10.667 cubic feet of oxygen in 24 hours, equal to 125 cubic inches of common air.
A man annually contributes to vegetation 124 pounds of carbon.
The average of the pulse in infancy is 120 per minute; in manhood, 80; at 60 years, 60. The pulse of females is more frequent than that of males.
The weight of the circulating blood is about 28 pounds.
The heart beats 75 times a minute; sends nearly 10 pounds of blood through the veins and arteries each beat; makes 4 beats while we breathe once.
Five hundred and forty pounds, or 1 hog heads 1½ pints of blood pass through the heart in one hour.
Twelve thousand pounds, or 24 hog heads 4 gallons, or 10,782 1-pints pass through the heart in 24 hours.
One thousand ounces of blood pass through the kidneys in one hour.
One hundred and seventy-four million holes or cells are in the lungs, which would cover a surface thirty times greater than the human body.

The Hon. J. A. Dacus' illustrated Lives of the James and Younger Brothers, published by N. D. Thompson & Co., St. Louis, has reached a sale of 50,000 copies in ten months. The demand is wonderful. Book agents are reaping a rich harvest with it.

Buy the Improved Howe Scales—acknowledged the best made. Borden, Sellick & Co., general agents, St. Louis, Mo.

Breeders' Directory.

But, like it bat upon the paper-covered sheet. The sleeves are filled with paper so as to retain the shape made by the arms; every button is covered with paper, and under the strings, etc., are laid pieces of paper to prevent discoloration or cutting. Over the whole is then placed a final layer. When the top tray is reached, and, perhaps, the next one also beside the paper sheet of the tray, the paper covering, such as florists use, is placed over it. In turn, over this a layer of oil silk. This is a precaution against the penetration of dampness or dust.

A clever American notion is that of adjustable trays which may be fitted to any trunk. These are merely tray bottoms formed of frames, with tape lace-work, and are easily and quickly adjusted by means of adjustable end-pieces which holds them firmly in place. Philadelphia Press.

He exhibited a great deal of foresight, too, in retiring to the outskirts of the city to wrestle with "Pinafore." There were no neighbors on either side to make it unpleasant for him—to fling odious remarks, chunks of wood and mis-siles at the impetuous fiddler—an indignity he had been numerous subjected to in the past.

And that was why Nero fiddled.—Puck.

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